

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales · Charity number 1173115

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-05-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 33-39
Bowling Green Lane
EC1R 0BJ

Phone 02031220736

Website www.right-to-education.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS TO PROMOTE THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION, AS DEFINED BY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW, BY: • SHARING INFORMATION, TOOLS AND RESOURCES ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION; • RESEARCHING INTO RIGHT TO EDUCATION ISSUES; • MONITOR ABUSES OF THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION; • RAISE AWARENESS ON RIGHT TO EDUCATION ISSUES; • PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVICE TO PARTNER CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS ON RIGHT TO EDUCATION ISSUES; • INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY OF THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION; AND • PROMOTING RESPECT FOR THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION AMONG INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATIONS.

Activities: RTE promotes education as a human right, making international and national law accessible to everybody. We conduct research and legal analysis and we develop tools and guides to help understand and effectively use human rights mechanisms to claim and enforce the right to education.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£382,920	£212,459	-	-
2023-12-31	£132,333	£229,557	-	-
2022-12-31	£324,859	£203,680	-	-
2021-12-31	£149,138	£191,073	-	-
2020-12-31	£204,987	£65,423	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ELIN MARTINEZ	Chair	2017-02-21
Ayan Hassan		2017-02-21
Bharti Patel		2020-09-03
Carole Andree Coupez		2021-09-23
Ignacio SAIZ		2023-06-30
Nicola Gillian Skipper		2020-09-03
Salima Namusobya		2023-06-30

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1173115

Accounts

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer (resigned October 2025)
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez (Chair)
A. Taneja (resigned October 2025)
D. Hashem (resigned May 2025)
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez
I.Saiz
S.Namusoby

Principal Office:

c/o ActionAid International
33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of Right to Education Initiative (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition effective 1 January 2019).

Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.

Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat. There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Our vision

Our vision is a world in which everyone can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions from birth to adulthood and throughout life, regardless of their status and circumstances, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

OVERVIEW

With the objective of protecting and strengthening of the international legal, political and institutional frameworks that guarantee the right to education and guide its implementation at national level,

- We co-led the development of Guiding Principles on the right to early childhood care and education (ECCE), together with UNESCO, the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, academics and civil society organisations. [An online consultation](#) was launched in December 2024 and more than 100 contributions were received.
- We reviewed and provided inputs to the draft of the [ACERWC's General Comment on Article 11 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child \(ACRWC\)](#) on the Right to Education.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- We contributed to conversations on the [UNESCO initiative on the evolving dimension of the right to education](#), including the [Geneva dialogue on the right to education](#) and a UNESCO workshop on homeschooling. Our contributions were included in the reports of these meetings.
- We followed the States' negotiations leading to the adoption of [Human Rights Council Resolution establishing a working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the rights to early childhood education, free pre-primary education and free secondary education](#)
- As a member of the [Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium](#) (PEHRC), we [reclaimed public education for all](#).

With the objective of strengthening civil society actors' capacity to understand and effectively use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at all levels through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation

- We facilitated 4 online courses on the right to education, including specific sessions on monitoring ECCE and the right to education in conflict contexts, and on privatisation, reaching more than 2,000 people across 70 countries.
- We provided technical support to partners organisations in Ghana and Uganda for the drafting and submission of alternative reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

THEMATIC FOCUS

- 1. The right to early childhood care and education:** Multifaceted and collaborative efforts to advance its recognition and implementation.

We contributed to the development of Guiding Principles on the right to ECCE, which aim to clarify the normative content of the right to education concerning ECCE rights.

- We coordinated the work of the group of experts leading the development of the Guiding Principles.
- We contributed to the drafting of the [first draft](#)
- We met with various actors regarding the future adoption of the Guiding Principles, including the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education
- We informed States about their development with the organisation of a [side event at the 56th session of the UN Human Rights Council](#) (June)
- We sought feedback from OMEP's members at the [76th OMEP World Assembly and International Conference](#) (Bangkok, July) and from experts at the UNESCO's [Technical Advisory Group](#) meeting (November)
- We co-launched the [online consultation](#) (December)

We participated in the 76th OMEP World Assembly and International Conference (Bangkok, July) and [sharing our main takeaways](#).

We took part in the [inaugural meeting of the Technical Advisory Group of the Global Report on ECCE](#), as a member of this group, stressing the importance of grounding ECCE implementation on human rights and ensuring its financing for equal and inclusive quality ECCE (November)

We built capacity in Africa on monitoring ECCE and reporting to UN Treaty Bodies from a Human rights perspective (May), through an successful [online training](#) reaching around 300 ECCE practitioners from the African region, including civil society organisations and academic institutions, as well as some African education ministries.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

We provided technical support to partners organisations in Ghana and Uganda for the drafting and submitting alternative reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. The ECCE issue was picked up by the Committee in 2025.

We developed a guide on [Monitoring the Right to Early Childhood Care and Education \(ECCE\) from a Human Rights' Perspective](#), which was [launched](#) in 2025.

We engaged in a conversation on [protecting the right to ECCE during crises](#)

We [discussed](#) the right to pre-school education at a Norrag's webinar together with high-level experts.

2. The right to education in conflict-affected contexts

[Capacity development and technical support on a pilot project to monitor the right to education in conflict-affected contexts in the Sahel region](#)

RTE partnered with [Amnesty international Netherlands](#) and local civil society organisations in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso to conduct a pilot project in the Liptako-Gourma region (Sahel). The project focused on monitoring the impact of school closures on students' right to education. The results of this research demonstrate the devastating effect of insecurity and conflict on children's rights highlighting that in some regions students have been out of school for over 2 years, with increased risks of child labor, early marriage, teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, physical violence, and child recruitment.

[MOOC on Children' right to education in armed conflict](#)

Building on previous collaboration, RTE partnered with the Global Campus of Human Rights in a [MOOC on the Children's right to education in armed conflict](#). The learning sessions aimed with the aim to introduce greater clarity on a rights-based approach to education in armed conflict, as well as concrete ways for putting it into practice. RTE provided a video and resources on the importance of monitoring and reporting and on private actors' involvement in education in emergencies. 1,708 persons enrolled in the MOOC and 12% (212) received a certificate for completing all course requirements. See [MOOC report](#) for more data.

[Contribution to the work of the Education in Emergencies \(EiE\) Hub](#)

We reviewed and provided inputs to [EiE Hub's Human Rights Factsheets on EiE](#). We also responded to an interview to inform the development of their strategy on the use of human rights mechanisms.

3. The right to public education: Collective mobilisation to protect it against privatisation

As a member of the [Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium](#) (PEHRC), we:

- We published a [statement reclaiming public education](#), which provides a resounding defence of the role and strengths of public education systems. It was published in seven languages (Arabic, Creole, English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish) and endorsed by 119 organisations and 199 individuals. We played a central role in the development, translation, and strategy underpinning the publication. An [op-ed](#) was published in Equal Time in English, French and Spanish.
- Co-developed and strategically steered the organisation of the celebration of the [5th Anniversary of the Abidjan Principles](#) (February). More than 100 people joined the online

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

session, which included participation from leading experts, practitioners, and regional and international system representatives.

- Led the drafting of an [updated report on the UK international development cooperation in the area of education](#), which was submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in for the review of the UK in February 2025.
- Made a [joint statement](#) during UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)'s NGO Annual Meeting raising concerns about severe human rights violations in International Financial Institutions and Development Finance Institutions projects, including in the funding of education and health private actors. This led to positive impacts and consideration from the Committee who indicated in its report that the 'CESCR members showed their concern related to the incompatibility of policies proposed by major international financial bodies, like the IMF, that generally tend to have an adverse impact to the implementation of ESC rights. In that sense, members indicated this is indeed an area of interest for CESCR'. (February).
- Alongside 45 partners, we published [a statement](#) urging investors to immediately divest from Bridge International Academies following a damning report by the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman's (CAO's) into the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC). In line with this report, we [co-sponsored an event](#) at the World Bank Civil Society Policy Forum Spring Sessions (April).
- Contributed to a [joint briefing note raising our concerns on the Rev. 2 of the Pact of the Future](#) (July), supported by 19 organisations.
- Contributed to PEHRC's regular meetings, including as an active member of the facilitation group.

4. The use of technology in education

- We submitted a [joint contribution](#) to the [call for inputs by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the solutions to promote digital education for young people and to ensure their protection from online threats](#) (February)
- We submitted a [joint contribution to the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education on AI's human rights-based use](#) (May).
- We participated in UNESCO Digital Learning Week

NEW PROJECT

RTE embarked on an [exciting project](#) as one of the four new Global Learning Partners working with the Global Partnership for Education and Oxfam Denmark to support Education Out Loud (EOL), the world's largest education advocacy fund. Our main aim is to strengthen the monitoring and advocacy work of GPE EOL grantees, by enhancing their knowledge and skills in human rights monitoring and advocacy using human rights laws and mechanisms.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

- [For the International Education Day](#), a young artist, **Andy Lemar Orand**, made a special image for RTE. Andy said *'I've drawn my dream school: not too many pupils in the class, an interesting teacher and friends to have fun with :) A school where we all welcome each other, with our differences, and where the pupils are happy, that's why they smile and why there are lots of colours.'*
- For the 3rd consecutive year, we delivered an online training on the right to education to 10 youth volunteers working on children's rights with the [Children's Rights Mission of Paris City Hall](#).

OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO DEFEND UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

- Alongside 300+ civil society organizations, we signed a [Joint letter](#) to UN representatives, asking the continuity of live online modalities of participation for UN human rights bodies and mechanisms in light of concerns regarding access and participation of civil society in these spaces.
- We submitted a [video statement](#) to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)'s NGO Annual Meeting expressing great concern regarding the General Assembly resolution to cease hybrid services for official meetings, including the ones with the CESCR.
- We signed [Child Rights Connect letter](#), raising concerns about the cancellation of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) pre-session in May, due to lack of funds from States.

AND MORE...

- In celebration of the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) adopted in 1948, **we spoke at a seminar organised by the Irish Network for Education Worldwide** on ['Education - A Human Right under Threat'](#), where we emphasised the importance of education as a fundamental human right.
- **We provided in-kind advice** for a wide range of actors, on various topics, all along the year, including on the application of the right to education in conflict contexts, on migrants' right to education, on the involvement of business actors' in education, on the UN Special Rapporteur's work.
- **We published an article on the right to higher education in a Francophone scientific review**, Education in Debate: Comparative Analysis ([in French, abstract in English and French](#)).

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024

In May 2024 we hosted The Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC) project, which in RTE's Financial Statements is denoted as Restricted Income and Restricted expenditure.

In 2024, we were supported by the Portugal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amnesty International Netherlands, Oxfam Denmark, and by individual supporters of RTE. It is the generosity of individuals and organisations that enables us to contribute to the realization of the right to education for all across the globe.

Total Income for the year 2024 amounted to £382,920 of which £279,687 was for PEHRC project restricted funds and resulted in £170,461 surplus.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2024 amounted to £346,590 of which £208,893 belongs to PEHRC project.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE would be withdrawal of funding and the impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2025 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which includes risk management and is discussed and updated at each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

RTE is currently implementing its strategy for the period 2023-26.

RTE's priority is to diversify its sources of funding while seeking a balance between core funding and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

There were no new trustee appointments in 2024. 3 trustees, D. Hashem, D. Archer and A. Taneja resigned in May and October 2025 board meeting. No immediate plans to appoint new trustees.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Organisational Structure

In 2024, RTE had a Board of 10 trustees (only 7 trustees in 2025) who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity and who are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity.

A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with the Executive Director. The Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy making, supervising programmes and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise and at board meetings.

To attract more European donors Right to Education Initiative's board decided to set up a sister entity in France (Initiative pour le droit à l'éducation, RTE France) and consequently in July 2024 we opened a French bank account with Qonto and received our first donation from the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs. This will be reflected in 2025 accounts and Financial Statements.

Staff

Right to Education Initiative employees 4 staff members. Eleanor Rosenbach, communication manager, left RTE in April 2024 and Juliana Lima joined Right to Education Initiative in February 2025.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th November 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Ayan Hassan
Treasurer

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

12th November 2025

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities	2	39,041	341,480	380,521	128,908
Investments	3	310	-	310	570
Other income		2,089	-	2,089	2,855
		<u>41,440</u>	<u>341,480</u>	<u>382,920</u>	<u>132,333</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities	4	85,706	126,753	212,459	229,557
		<u>85,706</u>	<u>126,753</u>	<u>212,459</u>	<u>229,557</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	7	<u>(44,266)</u>	<u>214,727</u>	<u>170,461</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(44,266)</u>	<u>214,727</u>	<u>170,461</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Balance brought forward		121,584	-	121,584	218,808
Balance carried forward		<u>£77,318</u>	<u>£214,727</u>	<u>£292,045</u>	<u>£121,584</u>

All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Debtors	8	311		232	
Cash at bank and in hand		346,279		127,819	
		<u>346,590</u>		<u>128,051</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>54,545</u>	<u>292,045</u>	<u>6,467</u>	<u>121,584</u>
NET ASSETS	10		<u>£292,045</u>		<u>£121,584</u>
Represented by:					
FUNDS					
Unrestricted	10		77,318		121,584
Restricted			214,727		-
			<u>£292,045</u>		<u>£121,584</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 12th Nov 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Treasurer
Ayan Hassan

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
Grants and Contracts				
UNESCO	-	-	-	288
Wellspring (2021 via CRIN)	-	-	-	28,237
Open Society Foundations	-	-	-	49,430
NEF	-	-	-	41,000
Foreign Ministry of Portugal	8,696	-	8,696	8,700
Amnesty International Netherlands	7,779	-	7,779	1,253
Individual Donor	11,746	-	11,746	-
PEHRC	3,771	-	3,771	-
ActionAid	7,049	-	7,049	-
PEHRC (Hosting)	-	279,687	279,687	-
Oxfam Denmark	-	61,793	61,793	-
	<u>£39,041</u>	<u>£341,480</u>	<u>£380,521</u>	<u>£128,908</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	<u>£310</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£310</u>	<u>570</u>

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

/cont

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
Direct Costs				
Salaries, fees and related costs	77,578	114,664	192,242	214,164
Foreign exchange losses/(gains)	(871)	-	(871)	1,853
Travel and subsistence	2,304	-	2,304	3,431
PEHRC costs	-	12,089	12,089	-
	<u>£79,011</u>	<u>£126,753</u>	<u>£205,764</u>	<u>£219,448</u>
Support Costs				
Office and administration costs	232	-	232	248
Website, computer and IT costs	1,351	-	1,351	1,077
Governance (see note 5)	1,890	-	1,890	1,800
Insurance	534	-	534	680
Subscriptions	1,315	-	1,315	1,102
Advertising, printing & design	1,373	-	1,373	5,202
	<u>£6,695</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>6,695</u>	<u>10,109</u>
	<u>£85,706</u>	<u>£126,753</u>	<u>£212,459</u>	<u>£229,557</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examination	<u>£1,890</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	127,804	139,175
Social security	19,357	19,291
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	10,046	9,689
	<u>£157,207</u>	<u>£168,155</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3 (2023 : 4). The average number based on full time equivalents was 3 (2023 : 3).

1 employee (2023: 1) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

/cont

6. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £71,780 (2023: £73,642). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

7. NET INCOME

	2024	2023
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,890	£1,800
	<u>£1,890</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	311	232
	<u>£311</u>	<u>£232</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	3,690	1,800
Deferred income	49,434	-
Other creditors	1,421	4,667
	<u>£54,545</u>	<u>£6,467</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Oxfam Denmark	£Nil	£111,227	£61,793	£49,434
	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£111,227</u>	<u>£61,793</u>	<u>£49,434</u>

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

/cont

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
Current assets	82,429	264,161	346,590	128,051
Current liabilities	(5,111)	(49,434)	(54,545)	(6,467)
As at 31 December 2024	<u>£77,318</u>	<u>£214,727</u>	<u>£292,045</u>	<u>£121,584</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds	<u>121,584</u>	<u>41,440</u>	<u>85,706</u>	-	<u>77,318</u>
Restricted funds					
PEHRC (Hosting)	-	279,687	64,960	-	214,727
Oxfam Denmark	-	61,793	61,793	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>341,480</u>	<u>126,753</u>	-	<u>214,727</u>
Total Funds	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£382,920</u>	<u>£212,459</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£292,045</u>

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2024 (2023 : Nil)

13. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

14. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1173115

Accounts

**RIGHT TO
EDUCATION
INITIATIVE**

**Annual Report
2023**



Right to Education

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Executive Director Statement

The certainties upon which our world rests are in flux. States, political formations and their bases, international agreements, population patterns, predictability of seasons - the 20th Century certainties inscribed upon the world of today are increasingly unable to capture the realities we experience.

The right to education, enshrined in international law and having enjoyed a century of progress, is also in evolution. As new developments intersect with education - technology, digital tools, vastly enhanced access to information - old realities, chief among them inequality, rise to the fore.

2023 was a year of growth, learning and development for RTE. Following a comprehensive external audit in 2022, we developed an ambitious strategy which sets out our plans and direction for the coming years. In parallel, we have devised new systems to monitor, evaluate and learn from our programmatic work.

2024 promises opportunity and challenge - we will be here to meet it, and to advocate for the rights of all learners, wherever they reside and whatever their circumstances, status, or characteristics, to fully enjoy their right to education.

A huge thank you to our small but amazing team, who work with passion, dedication and generosity to carry out a number of large-scale projects in service of a broad community of actors committed to education around the world.

As ever, we are immensely grateful to those who support our work financially, in kind, or via our networks and channels. It is thanks to you that the right to education can be realised for more learners across the globe.



About us



We are an international human rights organisation dedicated to the right to education.



We exist to make the right to education a reality for all learners at every stage of their lives, from birth and throughout life.



Our vision is a world where everyone fully enjoys their right to education, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.



We do this by strengthening systems while building capacity, creating the conditions for a world in which everyone, regardless of their status and circumstances, fully enjoys their right to education.

Find out more [about us.](#)



A snapshot of 2023



We launched an ambitious, bold, and focused new strategy for 2023-2026

Chief among our institutional developments this year was the development and publication of our 2023-2026 multilingual strategic plan, an ambitious document which is the product of collective reflection, consultative input, and a strategic review of the right to education and the context in which we are rooted.

Read the strategy here in [Spanish](#), [English](#) and [French](#).



We expanded our acclaimed monitoring guide series

Deeply committed to producing tools and resources to support the work of human rights defenders and education actors worldwide, in 2023 we developed and published 'Monitoring Access and Participation in Higher Education From a Human Rights Perspective' in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). This guide sits within our existing [thematic monitoring guide series](#), and is accompanied by a series of indicators which can be found in our [interactive online monitoring tool](#).



We produced and supported seven research reports

We have a track recording spanning more than two decades of producing research with impact at international level. Among the highlights of 2023 include '[Technology in education in light of human rights](#)', a background paper which we contributed to the 2023 GEM Report '[Technology in education: a tool on whose terms?](#)'. The analysis provided in this paper was widely cited in chapter 8 of the report on [governance and regulation](#), demonstrating the value of our research to wider positioning on rights and accountability.

[Read about the rest of our publications in 2023.](#)



We reported to UN human rights mechanisms about France and the UK

Collective advocacy is a fundamental building block for long term change. Across the year we collaborated on a range of initiatives, and led and supported the development of two reports to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. These reports, focusing on the compliance of the UK and France with their obligations regarding development finance and education and the right to higher education respectively, were drawn on in the Committee's recommendations on both occasions. This demonstrates the value of our inputs and reflects the powerful way in which we use UN mechanisms to further the enjoyment of the right to education.



We used our platforms to inform and to advocate, reaching half a million people across six continents

Our website and the work that we produce is of immense value to CSOs, researchers, and education actors worldwide - with our materials downloaded daily from the Philippines to Mexico, the USA to Cameroon. We reached a combined total of 556,593 people, spanning all continents and every nation state.

We believe in supporting the advocacy efforts of our partners and those working in adjacent fields, and in addition to producing two of our own statements, we joined nine global calls for change on issues ranging from tax justice, to World Bank appointments, to access to sustainable, healthy food for all children at school. Read the full list of statements here.



In 2023 we were cited 20 times by the UN, UNESCO, and the press

Our work continues to be of significant value at the highest levels of the international rights systems, with our materials, resources and monitoring guides cited in two reports by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, on the role and rights of teachers, and advances and critical challenges in the right to education. We also were cited in or contributed to 16 UNESCO publications over the year. Finally, in 2023 we featured twice in the media - read press coverage of RTE in Times Higher Education and Equal Times.



We provided technical and in-kind support worldwide



Committed to advancing the right to education across all dimensions, including those which do not fall into our core areas of focus but on which our expertise can add value and promote efforts for change, we provided in-kind support to partners and colleagues worldwide on diverse issues.

This ranged from contribution to expert workshops to the provision of training, from consultation on report content, campaign strategy and materials, to hands-on technical support on how to use UN reporting mechanisms for advocacy.

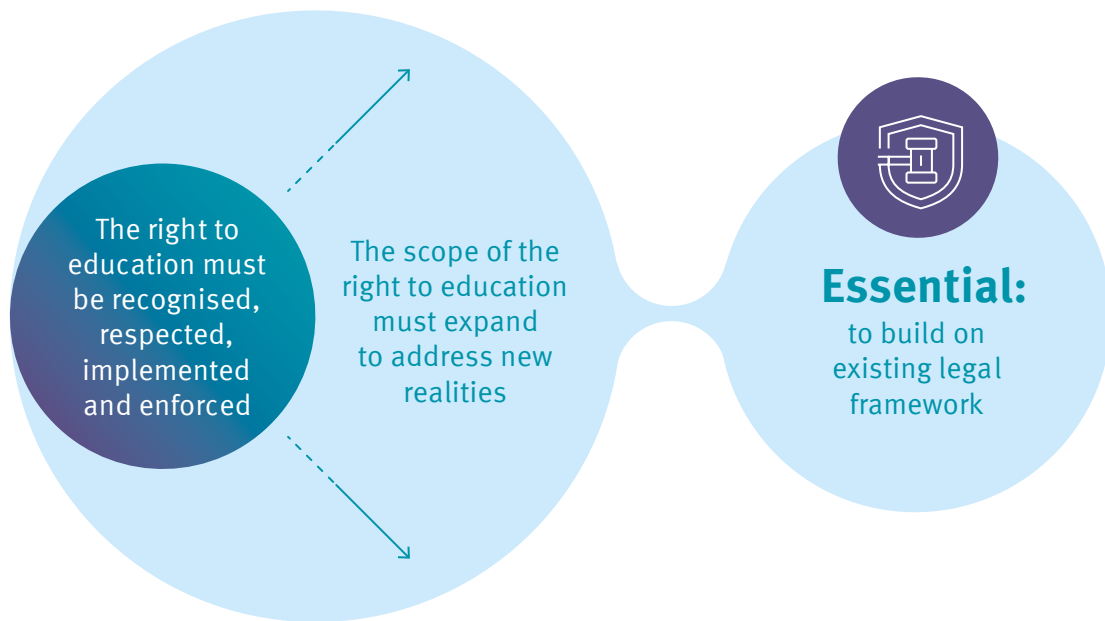


We took powerful steps towards strengthening the legal framework on early childhood care and education

The Global Advocacy Group, facilitated by RTE, joined efforts to draft early childhood care and education (ECCE) guiding principles to unpack and compile the existing legal obligations of States to guarantee ECCE rights, as prescribed under international human rights law. As part of this initiative, in partnership with UNESCO, the group organised an expert consultation to foster a discussion with human rights and ECCE experts on areas of ECCE rights that deserve a better footing in the international human rights framework. The discussions and conclusions of this consultation have been published in the report: [‘Clarifying the legal framework of ECCE rights: Key components and obligations’](#).



How we make a difference



Our objectives

We are an international non-governmental organisation committed to collaboration and partnership. We work to influence the human rights framework at international level, while supporting national level partners to influence the changes needed on the ground. We bring our long history of successfully influencing the international human rights framework to bear while supporting those with rich local knowledge to make sure that rights are implemented, and states are held accountable.

In 2023, we achieved major impact across both of our core objectives. Read our sections on [shaping the future of the right to education](#), [championing the rights of the very youngest](#), [advocating for the right to higher education](#), and [challenging profit making in education](#) to find out more about how we met our first objective of strengthening the international human rights framework.

In terms of our second objective, the strengthening of civil society actors' capacity to understand and effectively use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education, we secured major advances. →

We worked with 12 CSO organisations across three continents, supporting the development of three submissions to UN and regional human rights mechanisms and other reporting procedures.

HIGHLIGHT I:

Shaping the future of the right to education



In July, the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Farida Shaheed, presented her first report to the UN Human Rights Council entitled ‘Securing the right to education: advances and critical challenges’. **This report, which cited RTE and our resources multiple times, drew on the contribution we submitted to her office in February 2023.** Reports by the UN Special Rapporteur form the basis of ongoing policy at international level, and implementation at national level - and **our inclusion into these crucial texts ensures that our positions shape the future of the right to education.**

Also in July, the UN Human Rights Council adopted resolution A/HRC/53/L.10 on the right to education. **This resolution draws upon many areas on which we actively work, and broadly reflects our policy positions and language on crucial areas such as Early Childhood Care and Education, education under attack, and the Abidjan Principles.** In the lead up to its adoption, we took part in informal negotiations with states, UNESCO

and other civil society organisations. The inclusion of our framing and positions in international decisions and resolutions is a core aspect of our theory of change, and **demonstrates the crucial role we play in shaping the international normative framework with progressive positions which will positively impact the right to education.**

Throughout the year we continued to engage with UNESCO’s Initiative on the evolving right to education, maintaining our dialogue with the institution and ensuring our perspectives help inform its development. In December 2023 we attended the UNESCO Formal Dialogue on the initiative on the evolving right to education, **adding our inputs to this high level forum and supporting this vital initiative, which will shape the collective understanding of the right to education for years to come.** Specifically, we provided inputs to the session from the floor, sharing our reflections on the fundamental principles of equality and non-discrimination acting as the backbone of the right to education.

HIGHLIGHT II:

Challenging inequality in higher education

Our work on higher education began in 2018, with a collaboration with [Sciences Po Law School Clinic](#) in Paris. This [award winning](#) initiative focused on monitoring inequalities in access to higher education in France, with specific attention on the context of place and its impact on the right to higher education. Initially proposed as a one year endeavour, the project has grown in influence and import.

In 2023, much of the advocacy, research, capacity building and awareness raising work done over the last five years came to fruition when, and the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights made recommendations to France on addressing territorial and socio-economic inequality in its concluding observations. These observations discuss and make recommendations on the right to higher education and the issues of territorial and socio-economic inequalities in stratifying access to and participation in higher education. **The recommendations made in paragraphs 56 and 57 of this document reflect our language and positions, specifically those put forward in an alternative report to CESCR** which was developed in collaboration with French civil society organisation (CSO) [Fédération des Associations Générales Étudiantes \(La Fage\)](#) and international CSO [Global Student Forum](#), and drew on the Science Po students' research. **This demonstrates our success in influencing the bodies whose findings shape the international legal, political and institutional framework**, and in ensuring that issues such as higher education are high on the political agenda, as well as the value of using UN mechanisms to highlight violations and shape long term change.

As part of our advocacy work regarding this report, **RTE was heard by the French National Assembly's Committee on Cultural Affairs and Education, for the drafting of a report providing a budgetary opinion on the 'Higher Education and Student Life' mission of the 2024 Finance Bill.** The report includes a section on private higher education and refers to the concluding observations made by the CESCR.

Separately, in recognition of our remit and demonstrably successful history of raising awareness on critical and emerging issues, including highlighting gaps in legal frameworks and monitoring implementation at national level, we commenced a parallel and complementary programme of work to inform, raise awareness, build capacity and advocate on the right to higher education.

Our Monitoring Guide on the Right to Higher Education, published in English and Spanish in 2023, sits within our acclaimed series of thematic monitoring guides. These guides democratise access to reporting mechanisms and support education actors without formal legal training to document, monitor and report on the implementation of the right to education. Transformative in their potential to enable accountability, our [latest offering on higher education](#) contributes to the realisation of the right to higher education worldwide.



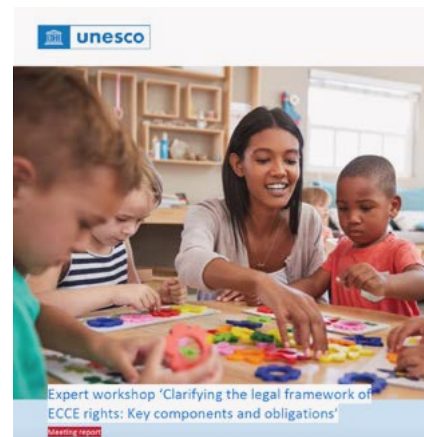
HIGHLIGHT III:

Championing the rights of the youngest children

For three years we have been working to advocate for the rights of the youngest members of society. The right to education begins at birth, and our programme on early childhood care and education (ECCE) contemplates this crucial phase for development and how international frameworks and national practice can ensure all children, everywhere, can enjoy their rights, right from the start.

In 2023, we continued to be a leading global voice for ECCE rights, shaping conversations on early childhood at international and national levels, and leading global advocacy efforts towards strengthening the legal framework on ECCE rights at the international level.

Throughout the year we continued to facilitate the ever-strengthening Global Advocacy Group, which includes UNESCO, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, the World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP), the Oxford Human Rights Hub (Oxford University), Human Rights Watch (HRW), the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education (CLADE), the Global Campaign for Education (GCE), Education International (EI), and the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER).



This year, the Group began drafting Guiding Principles to unpack and compile the existing legal obligations of States to guarantee ECCE rights, as prescribed under international human rights law. Taking part in these high level initiatives thus demonstrates the role RTE has in shaping the future of the right to education, by contributing ideas and findings to the debates and research which frame the evolving legal frameworks.

In connection to this initiative, we supported the organisation, execution and follow up report of the UNESCO-led expert meeting on ECCE, called 'Clarifying the legal framework of ECCE rights: key components and obligations'. Led by UNESCO but co-organised by RTE and other members of the Global Advocacy Group, the discussion and its published findings will inform both the first inter-agency Global Report on ECCE 2023-2024, and the ongoing initiative on the evolving right to education. Crucially, the findings will also support the development process of new Guiding Principles on ECCE rights.

We also collaborated on international consultations in different regions, and continued to offer technical support to national partners to utilise human rights mechanisms to advance their advocacy aims.



HIGHLIGHT IV:

Challenging profit making in education

Privatisation, commercialisation, and the role and regulation of non-State actors in education has been a central component of our work for many years. As one of the organisations fundamental to the development of the Abidjan Principles on the right to education, we are internationally renowned for our knowledge, expertise and intellectual property on non-state actors in education. **We continued to play a central role in efforts to promote the Abidjan Principles in 2023.** We supported action around the 4th anniversary celebrations, took part in an online workshop on the Abidjan Principles organised by ICJ Nepal for 21 lawyers, entitled ‘Lawyer’s advocacy on the right to education: Getting Acquainted with the International Laws and Strategies to Defend the Right to Education’. We delivered targeted advice on how to use the Principles for advocacy and litigation, sharing judicial cases and UN treaty reporting cases. Finally, we continued to raise awareness on the Abidjan Principles in various online fora. In April, we celebrated the recognition of the Abidjan Principles by France on behalf of 74 nation states, in a joint statement on academic freedom.

Given the uneasy correlation between international and development finance and privatisation, in 2023, much of our advocacy focused on raising awareness on and challenging the use of public funds for commercial and for-profit education.

In March 2023, in collaboration with nine civil society partners, **we submitted a Joint report to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) about the UK’s support to for-profit schools in which we challenged the UK’s position that international development cooperation can support non-state providers, including low cost private schools.** We drew upon

applicable international human rights frameworks in response to this position, among them the Abidjan Principles, while also noting the growing consensus that public development assistance should not support for-profit education and raising concerns regarding the impact of the UK’s corporate tax policies on the right to education. These concerns were included in the list of questions submitted to the UK by CESCR in April, to which it has until March 2025 to respond. This reflects a success both in terms of our advocacy strategy and approach, and an important step forwards in terms of the UK’s accountability regarding development finance for education.

In a parallel endeavour, **we led the development of a joint brief to support the development of the UK Parliamentary Committee on International Development’s Inquiry into British International Investments.** In this submission we raised concerns about UK investment in for-profit schooling, including through intermediaries investing in Bridge International Academies. These concerns were also referenced in the report, which concluded that British International Investments are ‘harming society and the environment’. In addition, together with CSO partners, we developed a joint contribution to the Call for inputs for the Working Group’s report on development finance institutions and human rights.

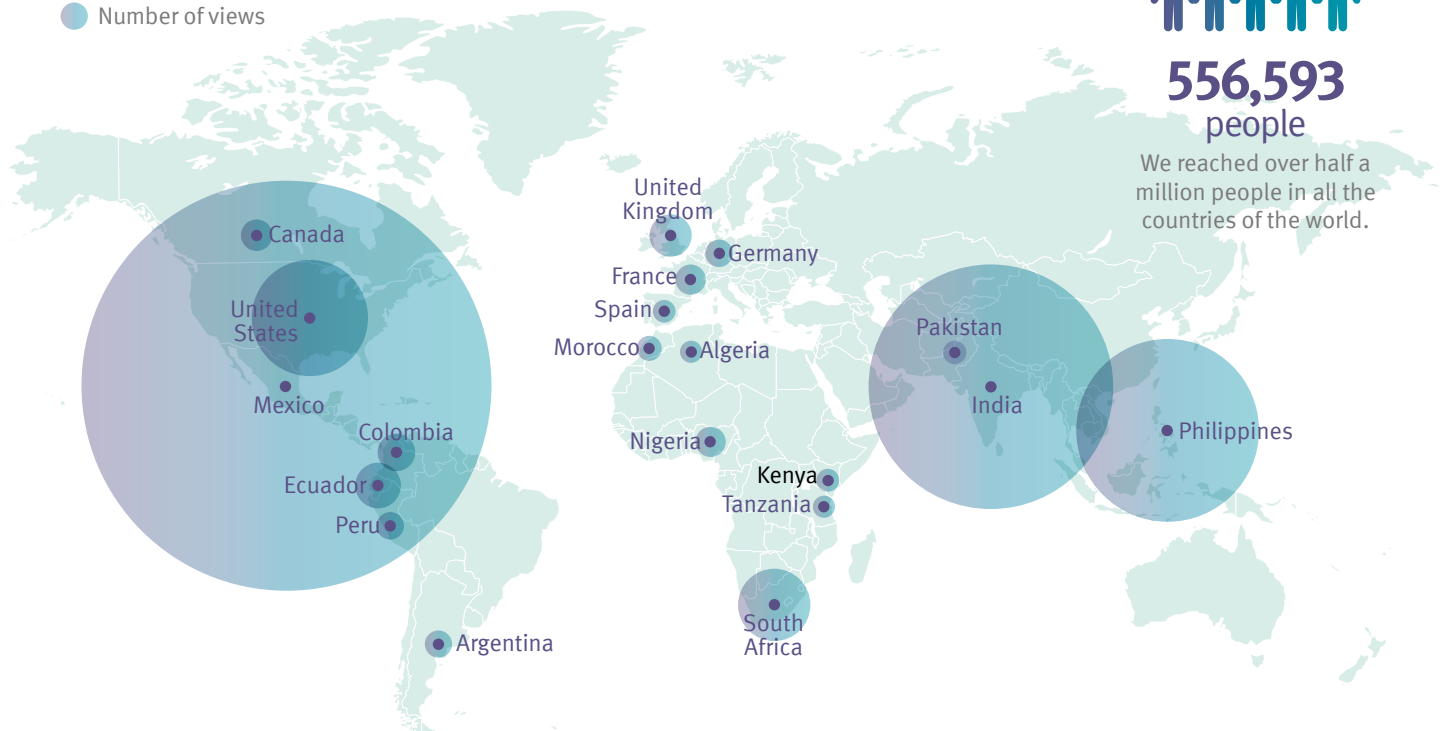
As well as highlighting issues relating to public finance for for-profit education in the Anglophone world, **we continued to play a leading role in efforts to convene diverse actors in the Francophone space.** We delivered training, supported collective actions including the development of a statement on public education, and the celebration of the third Francophone Day of Mobilisation against the Commercialisation of Education.

HIGHLIGHT V:

Knowledge is power: how we inform and raise awareness

Where our web audiences are based (2023)

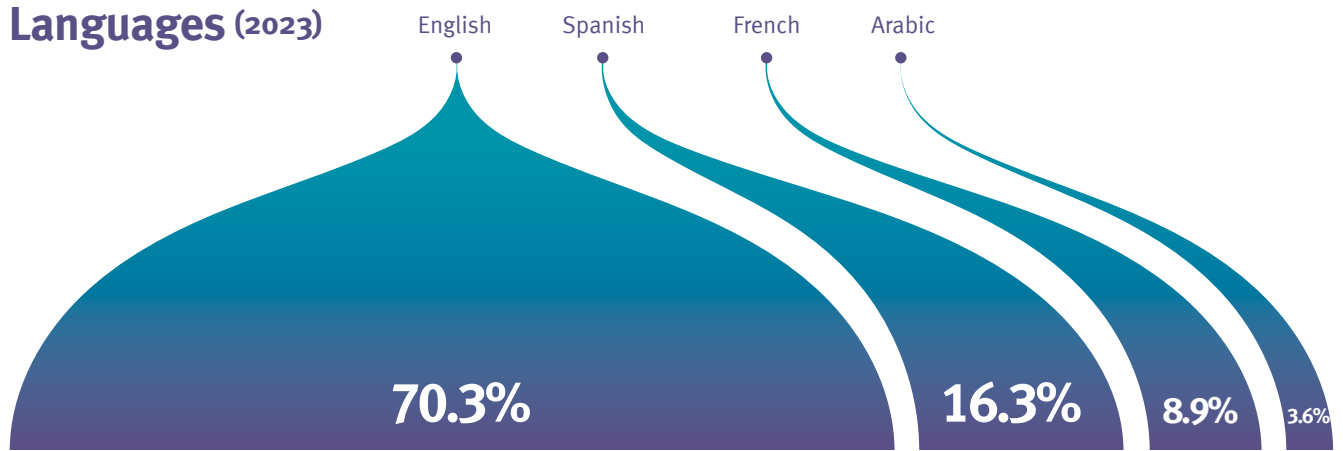
● Number of views



556,593
people

We reached over half a million people in all the countries of the world.

Languages (2023)



Our followers on LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook grew by 30% over the year, and our interactions grew by more than 50%.

This demonstrates our continued relevance to our wide ranging audience, and the quality and pertinence of the materials we share.

In 2023



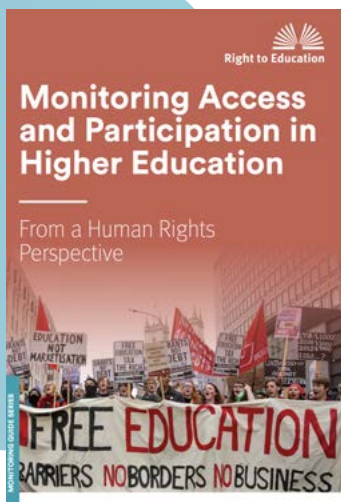
We were cited twice in the press

We were cited in two UN Special Rapporteur reports

We were cited in 16 UNESCO publications



We took part in and led 22 events



We published 33 news items

We published 4 blogs

We distributed 14 e-Bulletins

We launched 1 new webpage: Technology in Education

We developed 2 statements, and lent our voice to 9 more

We provided analysis of the right to education related content in UN CRC General Comment 26 and a report by the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants



How our activities lead to our impact

Providing resources for frontline defenders, and research to shape the future

We believe in the value of knowledge production, as a means of enhancing understanding and capacity and providing the evidence needed for wider efforts for change and accountability. We also believe that tools and resources for human rights defenders and education actors should be widely available and targeted for use in diverse contexts. That's why we continue to publish free, open source materials, where possible developing them in our core languages ([English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), and [Arabic](#)).

Across the year, we published [four reports and papers](#), made [two submissions](#) to UN human rights mechanisms, [one submission](#) to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, one submission to the [UK House of Commons International Development Committee](#), and supported or sponsored the development of a [further three publications](#).

RTE publications

- April: Higher education monitoring guide in English and Spanish.** This targeted monitoring guide supports the documentation of the implementation of the right to higher education, and meets our objectives of clarifying international law and making it accessible, while supporting civil society to engage in monitoring from a human rights perspective
- May: Background paper on the financing of higher education in France.** This paper, written in French, was commissioned by RTE in 2022, and contributes to the body of knowledge on the right to education. It also supported [our submission](#) to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- July: Technology in education in light of human rights.** Background paper to UNESCO GEM Report published, highlighting international legal frameworks on EdTech, and compiling a comparative analysis of 10 countries' frameworks for data protection of children in educational settings
- November: The right to higher education and rethinking merit: briefing note compendium.** This compendium, one of nine published by UNESCO IESALC in 2023, includes an article from our Executive Director, Delphine Dorsi entitled '[Capacity or Merit? Rethinking notions in access to higher education](#)'



Publications we supported

- **February: IIEP-UNESCO Toolkit and methodological guidelines.** This document is based on the Abidjan Principles, and over the several years of its consultative development RTE has contributed insights, findings and written contributions.
- **October: Expert workshop report** on ECCE Rights. This paper summarises the discussions and conclusions reached in an online workshop on ECCE rights jointly organised with UNESCO and other partners, including RTE, in July. It was co-authored by RTE.
- **December: Francophone Network research synthesis.** These papers compile research conducted during the research training on the right to education co-organised by RTE in collaboration with the University of Geneva.

Informing and advocating in strategic events

Among the key events for the year included the following:

- **February: CIES 2023 - we organised and facilitated an event called** 'Strengthening laws, policy, and governance for early childhood care and education: Towards an equal and inclusive education'
- **April: We supported the development of a SciencePo student led online roundtable, in partnership with the Global Student Forum: Collaborating for equal access to higher education: an international student exchange**
- **April: We took part as presenters in a joint webinar led by the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER), The African Coalition for Corporate Accountability (ACCA), Centre for Human Rights, and Global Initiative for Economic Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR) called** 'Unpacking General Comment 7 on State obligations under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights in the context of private provision of social services: Towards effective implementation'



- **April: We presented in an OMEP Webinar entitled** Early childhood education: Country progress towards national SDG 4 benchmarks
- **April: We presented in an EDCAN webinar entitled** 'Realizing the Right to Early Childhood Education through Courts and UN Mechanisms'
- **July: We were invited to participate as panellists in the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education's side event at the 53rd ordinary sessions of the human rights council, 'The mandate on the Right to Education is 25'**
- **July: We were invited to present at an ESCR Net webinar on** Tech companies' inroads into critical public services
- **December: we participated in the UNESCO Formal Dialogue on the Initiative on the Evolving Right to Education, where we spoke from the floor**

Co-sponsored and co-organised events:

- **We co-organised the First International Symposiums on the Right to Education** (SIDE, for its acronym in French). Conducted in French, this brought together practitioners, researchers and CSO representatives from multiple Francophone nations. We also presented at the event.
- **We co-sponsored a session at the World Bank Spring meeting - Making a real difference? Lessons from the financing of health and education for the World Bank Group's Evolution Roadmap.**

Leading and joining global calls for change

We develop statements on core issues related to our work, using our platforms and our networks to amplify collective calls:

- We published a statement for international children's rights day calling on all state parties in conflicts to uphold the right to education
- We published a joint statement at the 53rd ordinary sessions of the UN Human Rights Council, in collaboration with the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural rights

We also lent our voice to global calls for change, supporting and endorsing the advocacy efforts of others:

- We were proud to engage in the development of the Santiago Declaration at the Our Future is Public Conference in Chile, which was published in January in three languages. The Declaration is a call for universal access to quality, gender-transformative and equitable public services as the foundation of a fair and just society. It was signed by more than 350 organisations and individuals from multiple continents
- We signed a joint letter to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) led by more than 70 youth- and student-led organisations around the world demanding action on delivering the right to education in Africa
- We took part in a civil society call to end of the 'gentlemen's agreement', arguing for a merit-based, open and transparent World Bank presidential selection process
- Alongside multiple global organisations, RTE signed a Letter of rejection of the US nomination of Ajay Banga, former Mastercard chief, to be World Bank president because of his lack of relevant experience and links to private equity rather than development

- We joined more than 200 organisations and trade unions to call for the adoption of the Africa Group resolution on a UN Tax Convention. This resolution was adopted in November 2023
- We signed a collective statement in response to reports of a child sexual abuse cover up at the World Bank
- We signed a statement advocating for access to sustainable, healthy food for all children in schools
- Following the publication of the UK House of Commons International Development Committee report, we led Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC) members in a joint statement in response to the findings
- RTE signed a briefing led by civil society which calls for rethink of World Bank's 'evolution roadmap' as part of wider reforms to highly unequal global financial architecture



We join the Special Rapporteur in her call for reinforcing the implementation of the right to education, including through accountability and monitoring processes, stressing that this cannot be achieved without adequate financing.

Right to Education Initiative
Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
#HRC53



We emphasise with the Special Rapporteur that States must prioritize the funding of free, high quality public education and ensure that it is truly inclusive. As mentioned in her report, private actors' involvement must be regulated and support given to private educational institutions must meet certain requirements, as laid down in the Abidjan Guiding Principles on the human rights obligations of States to provide public education and regulate private actors' involvement in education (Abidjan Principles).

Right to Education Initiative
Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
#HRC53

Advocating for lasting change

In addition to our advocacy on core issues such as ECCE rights, the right to higher education, and the regulation of non-state actors in education, we harnessed our channels and global audience to engage in online advocacy activity for:

- [Education Day 2023](#)
- [International Women’s Day](#)

Providing technical, consultative and in-kind support

In line with our [2023-2026 strategy](#), a core component of our work is to provide technical support to civil society organisations to help support advocacy goals. This support is offered in multiple forms, delivered to best suit the needs and advocacy goals of our partners. Much of this support is delivered pro-bono, as part of our commitment to supporting, developing and capacity building the sector.

In 2023, we provided



over 200 hours of in-kind support,



totalling



£8000 in real economic terms.



Among the expertise offered includes the co-organisation of international events, contribution to expert workshops, the provision of training, consultation on campaign strategy and materials, technical support on how to utilise human rights mechanisms, and the provision of information on specific dimensions of human rights.

A snapshot of what we did:

- In light of our expertise and influence on ECCE, we were invited by ASEAN to provide written inputs into the Regional Consultation on Draft Declaration on Early Childhood Care and Education in Southeast Asia.
- **We took part in an online workshop for lawyers on the Abidjan Principles organised by ICJ Nepal for 21 lawyers entitled ‘*Lawyer’s advocacy on the right to education: Getting Acquainted with the International Laws and Strategies to Defend the Right to Education*’, as part of a wider mentorship programme that ICJ Nepal runs with lawyers.**
- In collaboration with Professor Sandra Fredman, we provided inputs to the draft General Comment on the right to education developed by the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the child.
- We took part in a workshop organised by Education in Emergencies Hub in Geneva on the linkages between education in emergencies and human rights, whose accompanying report references RTE several times.
- We reviewed numerous legal and technical documents for partners.





Collaborate and build bridges

We believe that more can be achieved when organisations work together, collaborating for maximum impact and minimum drain on the world's resources. **Our unique role as a small, agile organisation with a laser focus on the right to education and a capacity to work with organisations big and small, in addition to UN bodies, researchers and academics has allowed us to build an unparalleled network of global education actors with whom we enjoy a relationship of mutual esteem.** A core component of our ethos is to build bridges between different disciplines, language communities, and sectors, sharing knowledge and resources for collective efforts for change. Across the year we linked academics and researchers to CSOs, made connections between members of human rights mechanisms and partners on the ground, and strengthened relationships between CSOs worldwide.

As in previous years, **we maintained an important relationship with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, supporting her office, and providing timely and relevant input to her reports.**

Among the highlights of our convening and catalysing efforts include our role in the development and launch of the first International Symposiums on the Right to Education, alongside the University of Geneva, GI-ESCR, Educoop, the Francophone research network on the privatisation of education (REFPE), and the Suisse Society for Education Research (SSRE). Crucially, this successful event was the result of several years of collaboration, of which RTE has been a central part, with Francophone academics and CSOs to make visible and strengthen the Francophone research on the privatisation of education and more broadly the right to education.

Contribution to networks

We believe in the power of partnerships and collective working for common goals. Throughout 2023, we maintained our commitment to working in collaboration with others, and took an active role in four global civil society networks. In each network, we contribute our time to collective efforts, shape advocacy and policy, and ensure that the right to education is at the heart of collaborative efforts for change. Over the year we steered the direction of international networks on education and rights, notably the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium and the Francophone network against the commercialisation of education. Our support and management of network leads, strategic steering and facilitation of meetings and sessions has ensured the right to education is central to network activity.



Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC)

Over the year we played a strategic role in PEHRC, **actively shaping the direction of the network through strategic guidance, right to education advocacy and collaborative working.** We are part of the facilitation group for the network which acts as its steering council, and we also played a central role in collective advocacy efforts, advising on the development of a statement on the right to public education from a content and communications perspective, and on targets and activity.

We attended **64 hours** of meetings,

including regular sessions for four working groups,

11 global calls,

11 facilitation sessions and multiple campaign groups.



Francophone Network against the commercialization of education

We played a prominent role in the Francophone Network in 2023. In addition to managing the coordinator for several months and steering network activity and strategic focus, for the second year running we co-facilitated a research training programme addressing research skills for right to education advocacy, organised alongside network members GI-ESCR and the University of Geneva. One of the outcomes of the training was the publication of two articles by training participants in an academic-led scientific review. **For many years we have worked to catalyse francophone academics on the issue of privatisation, and we are delighted to see research of this calibre emerging.** Finally, our Director Delphine Dorsi presented the privatisation of higher education in France at the Francophone mobilisation Day against the commercialisation of education, and we collaborated on the development of a statement on educational inequalities in the Francophone Network, in addition to coordinating its publication.

We attended **24 hours** of meetings,

including

6 global calls, multiple facilitation and supervision sessions and **2 campaign session groups.**

ESCR-Net

- Contributed to the ESCR-net Monitoring Working group with written and oral inputs, helping steer its strategic direction.

Child Rights Connect

- We joined Child Rights Connect and established a working group on monitoring the right to education.

Financials

We are immensely grateful to our supporters and partners for their belief in our work, and their financial and in kind support which helps make the right to education a reality for all.

In 2023, we were supported by the Portugal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amnesty International, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, and by individual supporters of RTE. We launched a Giving Tuesday Appeal and ‘Christmas Appeal and were overwhelmed with the responses. **It is the generosity of individuals and organisations that enables us to realise the right to education for more learners across the globe.**

Our team and executive board

Staff



Executive Director:
Delphine Dorsi



Programme Manager, Early Childhood Care and Education:
Rajakumari Michaelsamy



Finance and Administration Manager:
Natalia Dzvelaia



Communications Manager:
Eleanor Rosenbach

Executive Board

Elin Martinez (Chair)
Senior Researcher in the Children's Rights Division at Human Rights Watch

Anjela Taneja
Public Services and Inequality Lead at Oxfam International

Ayan Hassan (Treasurer)
Senior Control at WarChild Alliance

Nikki Skipper
Freelance fundraising professional and mentor

David Archer
Head of Programmes and Influencing at ActionAid International

Bharti Patel
International human rights advocate and advisor

Dina Hashem
Director of Institutional Funding at Lumos Foundation

Salima Namusoby
Vice President, Africa at the Centre for Reproductive Rights

Carole Coupez
General Delegate of Solidarité Laïque

Ignacio Saiz
International advocate for economic and social rights



Right to Education

www.right-to-education.org

CHARITY NUMBERS:

England and Wales: 1173115

France: W751261694



FACEBOOK



TWITTER



INSTAGRAM



LINKEDIN



EMAIL

Graphic design:

Ana K. Landi | *Diecut is Design*

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez (Chair)
A. Taneja
D. Hashem
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez
I.Saiz (appointed 30 June 2023)
S.Namusoby (appointed 30 June 2023)

Principal Office:

c/o ActionAid International
33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.

Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat. There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Our vision

Our vision is a world in which everyone can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions from birth to adulthood and throughout life, regardless of their status and circumstances, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- **We launched an ambitious, bold, and focused new strategy for 2023-2026**

Chief among our institutional developments this year was the development and publication of our 2023-2026 multilingual strategic plan, an ambitious document which is the product of collective reflection, consultative input, and a strategic review of the right to education and the context in which we are rooted.

- **We expanded our acclaimed monitoring guide series**

Deeply committed to producing tools and resources to support the work of human rights defenders and education actors worldwide, in 2023 we developed and published 'Monitoring Access and Participation in Higher Education From a Human Rights Perspective' in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). This guide sits within our existing [thematic monitoring guide series](#), and is accompanied by a series of indicators which can be found in our [interactive online monitoring tool](#).

- **We produced and supported seven research reports**

We have a track recording spanning more than two decades of producing research with impact at international level. Among the highlights of 2023 include '[Technology in education in light of human rights](#)', a background paper which we contributed to the 2023 GEM Report '[Technology in education: a tool on whose terms?](#)'. The analysis provided in this paper was widely cited in chapter 8 of the report on [governance and regulation](#), demonstrating the value of our research to wider positioning on rights and accountability.

[Read about the rest of our publications in 2023](#)

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

- **We reported to UN human rights mechanisms about France and the UK**

Collective advocacy is a fundamental building block for long term change. Across the year we collaborated on a range of initiatives, and led and supported the development of two reports to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. These reports, focusing on the compliance of the [UK](#) and [France](#) with their obligations regarding development finance and education and the right to higher education respectively, were drawn on in the Committee's recommendations on both occasions. This demonstrates the value of our inputs and reflects the powerful way in which we use UN mechanisms to further the enjoyment of the right to education.

- **We used our platforms to inform and to advocate, reaching half a million people across six continents**

Our website and the work that we produce is of immense value to CSOs, researchers, and education actors worldwide - with our materials downloaded daily from the Philippines to Mexico, the USA to Cameroon. We reached a combined total of 556,593 people, spanning all continents and every nation state.

We believe in supporting the advocacy efforts of our partners and those working in adjacent fields, and in addition to producing [two](#) of our own statements, we joined [nine](#) global calls for change on issues ranging from [tax justice](#), to [World Bank appointments](#), to access to [sustainable, healthy food](#) for all children at school. Read the full list of statements [here](#).

- **In 2023 we were cited 20 times by the UN, UNESCO, and the press**

Our work continues to be of significant value at the highest levels of the international rights systems, with our materials, resources and monitoring guides cited in two reports by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, on the [role and rights of teachers](#), and [advances and critical challenges in the right to education](#). We also were cited in or contributed to [16 UNESCO](#) publications over the year. Finally, in 2023 we featured twice in the media - read press coverage of RTE in [Times Higher Education](#) and [Equal Times](#).

- **We provided technical and in-kind support worldwide**

Committed to advancing the right to education across all dimensions, including those which do not fall into our core areas of focus but on which our expertise can add value and promote efforts for change, we provided in-kind support to partners and colleagues worldwide on diverse issues.

This ranged from contribution to expert workshops to the provision of training, from consultation on report content, campaign strategy and materials, to hands-on technical support on how to use UN reporting mechanisms for advocacy.

- **We took powerful steps towards strengthening the legal framework on early childhood care and education**

The Global Advocacy Group, facilitated by RTE, joined efforts to draft early childhood care and education (ECCE) guiding principles to unpack and compile the existing legal obligations of States to guarantee ECCE rights, as prescribed under international human rights law. As part of this initiative, in partnership with UNESCO, the group organised an expert consultation to foster a discussion with human rights and ECCE experts on areas of ECCE rights that deserve a better footing in the international human rights framework. The discussions and conclusions of this consultation have been published in the report: ['Clarifying the legal framework of ECCE rights: Key components and obligations'](#).

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

We are immensely grateful to our supporters and partners for their belief in our work, and their financial and in kind support which helps make the right to education a reality for all.

In 2023, we were supported by the Portugal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amnesty International Netherlands, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, and by individual supporters of RTE. We launched a Giving Tuesday Appeal and 'Christmas Appeal and were overwhelmed with the responses, total received £2,855. It is the generosity of individuals and organisations that enables us to realise the right to education for more learners across the globe.

Total Income for the year 2023 amounted to £132,333, which was significantly lower than prior year 2022 income and resulted in £97,224 loss, which is mostly due to our main funder Open Society Foundations closing educational sector grants and giving final 'General Purpose' grant to RTE 2022.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2023 amounted to £128,051.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2024 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which includes risk management -and is discussed and updated at each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Based on external review made in 2022, RTE launched a new strategy in 2023 for the period 2023-26. RTE's priority is to diversify its sources of funding while seeking a balance between core funding and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

There were 2 new trustee appointments in 2023. Ignacio Saiz and Salima Namusobya appointed both appointed on 30 June 2023 board meeting.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 10 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 10 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

Alice Beste has joined RTE as PEHRC coordination on 05.04.2023.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29th Oct 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Ayan Hassan
Treasurer

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

29 October 2024

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	2	128,908	128,908	324,281
Investments	3	570	570	251
Other income		2,855	2,855	327
		<u>132,333</u>	<u>132,333</u>	<u>324,859</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	4	229,557	229,557	203,680
		<u>229,557</u>	<u>229,557</u>	<u>203,680</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	7	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>121,179</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>121,179</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance brought forward		218,808	218,808	97,629
Balance carried forward		<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£218,808</u>

All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	£	2023	£	£	2022	£
Current Assets							
Debtors	8		232			318	
Cash at bank and in hand			<u>127,819</u>			<u>303,666</u>	
			128,051			303,984	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year							
	9		<u>6,467</u>			<u>85,176</u>	
				<u>121,584</u>			
NET ASSETS	10			<u>£121,584</u>			<u>£218,808</u>
Represented by:							
FUNDS							
Unrestricted	10			<u>121,584</u>		<u>218,808</u>	
				<u>£121,584</u>		<u>£218,808</u>	

Approved by the Trustees on 29th Oct 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Treasurer
Ayan Hassan

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Grants and Contracts			
UNESCO	288	288	7,640
Wellspring (2021 via CRIN)	28,237	28,237	66,245
Open Society Foundations	49,430	49,430	250,396
NEF	41,000	41,000	-
Foreign Ministry of Portugal	8,700	8,700	-
Amnesty International Netherlands	1,253	1,253	-
	<u>£128,908</u>	<u>£128,908</u>	<u>£324,281</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£	£	£
Bank interest	<u>570</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>251</u>

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Direct Costs			
Salaries, fees and related costs	214,164	214,164	198,753
Foreign exchange losses/(gains)	1,853	1,853	(16,392)
Travel and subsistence	3,431	3,431	13,927
	<u>£219,448</u>	<u>£219,448</u>	<u>£196,288</u>
Support Costs			
Office and administration costs	248	248	581
Website, computer and IT costs	1,077	1,077	981
Governance (see note 5)	1,800	1,800	1,800
Insurance	680	680	1,104
Subscriptions	1,102	1,102	2,824
Advertising, printing & design	5,202	5,202	102
	<u>£10,109</u>	<u>£10,109</u>	<u>£7,392</u>
	<u>£229,557</u>	<u>£229,557</u>	<u>£203,680</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,800
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	139,175	94,817
Social security	19,291	16,277
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	9,689	6,562
	<u>£168,155</u>	<u>£117,656</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 4 (2022 : 3). The average number based on full time equivalents was 3 (2022 : 3).

One employee (2022: 1) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

6. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £73,642 (2022: £68,402). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

7. NET INCOME

	2023	2022
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,800
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	232	318
	<u>£232</u>	<u>£318</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	1,800	6,235
Deferred income	-	77,666
Other creditors	4,667	1,275
	<u>£6,467</u>	<u>£85,176</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Open Society Institute	49,430	-	49,430	-
Wellspring	28,236	-	28,236	-
	<u>£77,666</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£77,666</u>	<u>£Nil</u>

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	128,051	128,051	303,984
Current liabilities	(6,467)	(6,467)	(85,176)
As at 31 December 2023	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£218,808</u>

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2023 (2022 : Nil)

12. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez (Chair)
A. Taneja
D. Hashem
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez
I.Saiz (appointed 30 June 2023)
S.Namusoby (appointed 30 June 2023)

Principal Office:

c/o ActionAid International
33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.

Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat. There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Our vision

Our vision is a world in which everyone can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions from birth to adulthood and throughout life, regardless of their status and circumstances, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- **We launched an ambitious, bold, and focused new strategy for 2023-2026**

Chief among our institutional developments this year was the development and publication of our 2023-2026 multilingual strategic plan, an ambitious document which is the product of collective reflection, consultative input, and a strategic review of the right to education and the context in which we are rooted.

- **We expanded our acclaimed monitoring guide series**

Deeply committed to producing tools and resources to support the work of human rights defenders and education actors worldwide, in 2023 we developed and published 'Monitoring Access and Participation in Higher Education From a Human Rights Perspective' in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). This guide sits within our existing [thematic monitoring guide series](#), and is accompanied by a series of indicators which can be found in our [interactive online monitoring tool](#).

- **We produced and supported seven research reports**

We have a track recording spanning more than two decades of producing research with impact at international level. Among the highlights of 2023 include '[Technology in education in light of human rights](#)', a background paper which we contributed to the 2023 GEM Report '[Technology in education: a tool on whose terms?](#)'. The analysis provided in this paper was widely cited in chapter 8 of the report on [governance and regulation](#), demonstrating the value of our research to wider positioning on rights and accountability.

[Read about the rest of our publications in 2023](#)

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

- **We reported to UN human rights mechanisms about France and the UK**

Collective advocacy is a fundamental building block for long term change. Across the year we collaborated on a range of initiatives, and led and supported the development of two reports to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. These reports, focusing on the compliance of the [UK](#) and [France](#) with their obligations regarding development finance and education and the right to higher education respectively, were drawn on in the Committee's recommendations on both occasions. This demonstrates the value of our inputs and reflects the powerful way in which we use UN mechanisms to further the enjoyment of the right to education.

- **We used our platforms to inform and to advocate, reaching half a million people across six continents**

Our website and the work that we produce is of immense value to CSOs, researchers, and education actors worldwide - with our materials downloaded daily from the Philippines to Mexico, the USA to Cameroon. We reached a combined total of 556,593 people, spanning all continents and every nation state.

We believe in supporting the advocacy efforts of our partners and those working in adjacent fields, and in addition to producing [two](#) of our own statements, we joined [nine](#) global calls for change on issues ranging from [tax justice](#), to [World Bank appointments](#), to access to [sustainable, healthy food](#) for all children at school. Read the full list of statements [here](#).

- **In 2023 we were cited 20 times by the UN, UNESCO, and the press**

Our work continues to be of significant value at the highest levels of the international rights systems, with our materials, resources and monitoring guides cited in two reports by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, on the [role and rights of teachers](#), and [advances and critical challenges in the right to education](#). We also were cited in or contributed to [16 UNESCO](#) publications over the year. Finally, in 2023 we featured twice in the media - read press coverage of RTE in [Times Higher Education](#) and [Equal Times](#).

- **We provided technical and in-kind support worldwide**

Committed to advancing the right to education across all dimensions, including those which do not fall into our core areas of focus but on which our expertise can add value and promote efforts for change, we provided in-kind support to partners and colleagues worldwide on diverse issues.

This ranged from contribution to expert workshops to the provision of training, from consultation on report content, campaign strategy and materials, to hands-on technical support on how to use UN reporting mechanisms for advocacy.

- **We took powerful steps towards strengthening the legal framework on early childhood care and education**

The Global Advocacy Group, facilitated by RTE, joined efforts to draft early childhood care and education (ECCE) guiding principles to unpack and compile the existing legal obligations of States to guarantee ECCE rights, as prescribed under international human rights law. As part of this initiative, in partnership with UNESCO, the group organised an expert consultation to foster a discussion with human rights and ECCE experts on areas of ECCE rights that deserve a better footing in the international human rights framework. The discussions and conclusions of this consultation have been published in the report: ['Clarifying the legal framework of ECCE rights: Key components and obligations'](#).

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

We are immensely grateful to our supporters and partners for their belief in our work, and their financial and in kind support which helps make the right to education a reality for all.

In 2023, we were supported by the Portugal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amnesty International Netherlands, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, and by individual supporters of RTE. We launched a Giving Tuesday Appeal and 'Christmas Appeal and were overwhelmed with the responses, total received £2,855. It is the generosity of individuals and organisations that enables us to realise the right to education for more learners across the globe.

Total Income for the year 2023 amounted to £132,333, which was significantly lower than prior year 2022 income and resulted in £97,224 loss, which is mostly due to our main funder Open Society Foundations closing educational sector grants and giving final 'General Purpose' grant to RTE 2022.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2023 amounted to £128,051.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2024 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which includes risk management -and is discussed and updated at each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Based on external review made in 2022, RTE launched a new strategy in 2023 for the period 2023-26. RTE's priority is to diversify its sources of funding while seeking a balance between core funding and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

There were 2 new trustee appointments in 2023. Ignacio Saiz and Salima Namusobya appointed both appointed on 30 June 2023 board meeting.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 10 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 10 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

Alice Beste has joined RTE as PEHRC coordination on 05.04.2023.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29th Oct 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Ayan Hassan
Treasurer

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Kingston Burrowes Audit Ltd
308 Ewell Road
Surbiton
Surrey
KT6 7AL

29 October 2024

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	2	128,908	128,908	324,281
Investments	3	570	570	251
Other income		2,855	2,855	327
		<u>132,333</u>	<u>132,333</u>	<u>324,859</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	4	229,557	229,557	203,680
		<u>229,557</u>	<u>229,557</u>	<u>203,680</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	7	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>121,179</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>(97,224)</u>	<u>121,179</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance brought forward		218,808	218,808	97,629
Balance carried forward		<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£218,808</u>

All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	£	2023	£	£	2022	£
Current Assets							
Debtors	8		232			318	
Cash at bank and in hand			<u>127,819</u>			<u>303,666</u>	
			128,051			303,984	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year							
	9		<u>6,467</u>			<u>85,176</u>	
				<u>121,584</u>			
NET ASSETS	10			<u>£121,584</u>			<u>£218,808</u>
Represented by:							
FUNDS							
Unrestricted	10			<u>121,584</u>		<u>218,808</u>	
				<u>£121,584</u>		<u>£218,808</u>	

Approved by the Trustees on 29th Oct 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Treasurer
Ayan Hassan

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Grants and Contracts			
UNESCO	288	288	7,640
Wellspring (2021 via CRIN)	28,237	28,237	66,245
Open Society Foundations	49,430	49,430	250,396
NEF	41,000	41,000	-
Foreign Ministry of Portugal	8,700	8,700	-
Amnesty International Netherlands	1,253	1,253	-
	<u>£128,908</u>	<u>£128,908</u>	<u>£324,281</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£	£	£
Bank interest	<u>570</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>251</u>

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Direct Costs			
Salaries, fees and related costs	214,164	214,164	198,753
Foreign exchange losses/(gains)	1,853	1,853	(16,392)
Travel and subsistence	3,431	3,431	13,927
	<u>£219,448</u>	<u>£219,448</u>	<u>£196,288</u>
Support Costs			
Office and administration costs	248	248	581
Website, computer and IT costs	1,077	1,077	981
Governance (see note 5)	1,800	1,800	1,800
Insurance	680	680	1,104
Subscriptions	1,102	1,102	2,824
Advertising, printing & design	5,202	5,202	102
	<u>£10,109</u>	<u>£10,109</u>	<u>£7,392</u>
	<u>£229,557</u>	<u>£229,557</u>	<u>£203,680</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,800
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	139,175	94,817
Social security	19,291	16,277
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	9,689	6,562
	<u>£168,155</u>	<u>£117,656</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 4 (2022 : 3). The average number based on full time equivalents was 3 (2022 : 3).

One employee (2022: 1) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

6. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £73,642 (2022: £68,402). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

7. NET INCOME

	2023	2022
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,800
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,800</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	232	318
	<u>£232</u>	<u>£318</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	1,800	6,235
Deferred income	-	77,666
Other creditors	4,667	1,275
	<u>£6,467</u>	<u>£85,176</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Open Society Institute	49,430	-	49,430	-
Wellspring	28,236	-	28,236	-
	<u>£77,666</u>	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>£77,666</u>	<u>£Nil</u>

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

/cont

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	128,051	128,051	303,984
Current liabilities	(6,467)	(6,467)	(85,176)
As at 31 December 2023	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£121,584</u>	<u>£218,808</u>

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2023 (2022 : Nil)

12. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1173115

Accounts

2022



Annual report

Right to Education Initiative

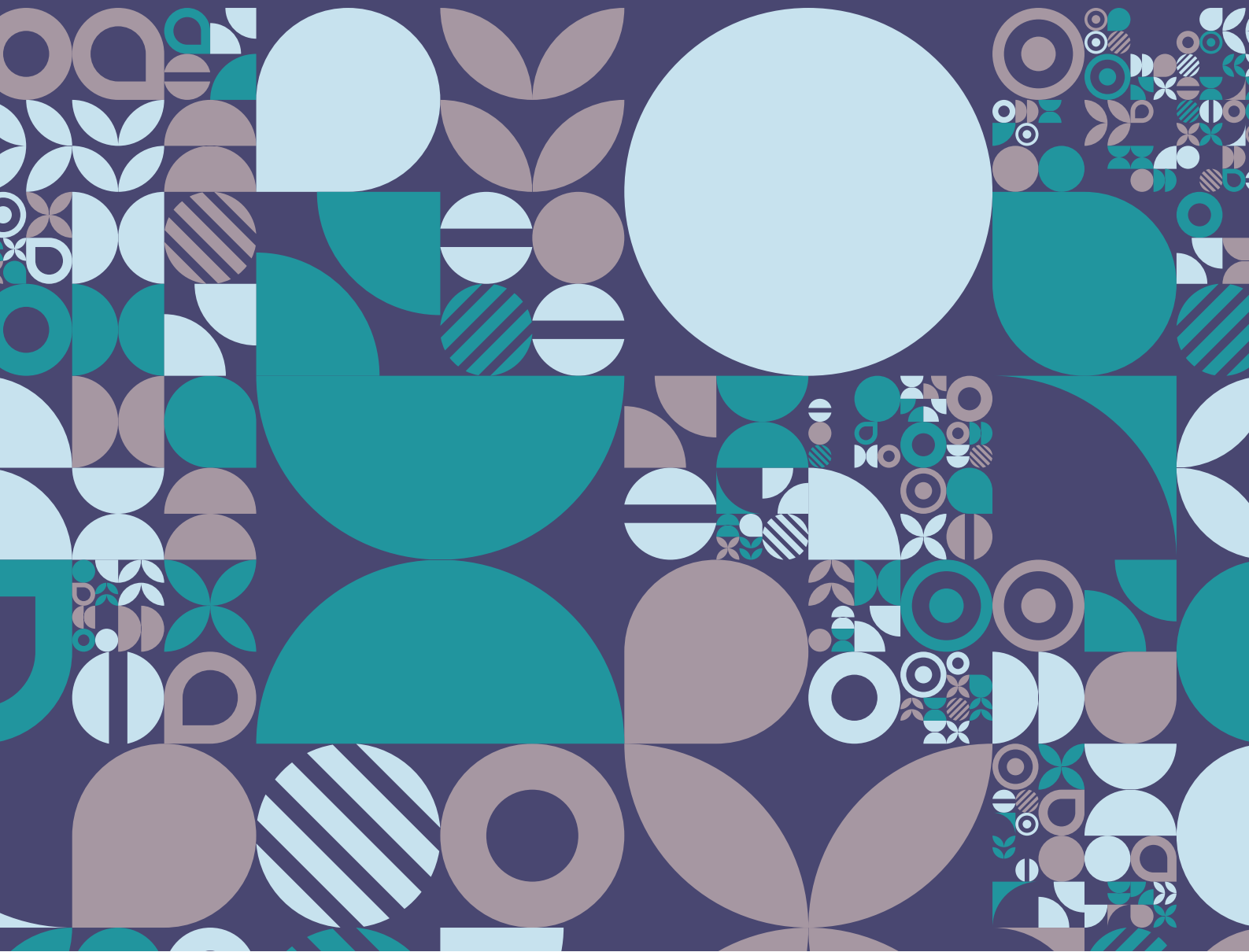


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About RTE



Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.



What we do

Our mission is to promote and defend education as a human right worldwide, by:

- protecting and strengthening the international legal, political and institutional framework that guarantees the right to education and guides its implementation at national level
- strengthening civil society actors' capacity to understand and effectively use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at all levels through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.



Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat.

There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Find out more
about us

Our impact

Over the course of the year we saw significant impact and progress across many areas of our work, primarily in terms of building bridges and catalysing action; supporting and capacity building the sector; and raising awareness on the right to education. Our main thematic areas of focus this year were early childhood care and education (ECCE), non-state actors in education, and higher education, though we have commenced work on educational technology, and continue to work on cross-cutting monitoring.



Building bridges and catalysing action

One of our core strengths is our ability to convene diverse actors in order to catalyse action for meaningful change. Drawing on our wide network and our in-house expertise and technical knowledge, we were able to drive forward progressive agendas on a range of issues throughout the year. The following is a snapshot rather than an extensive list of our achievements;

Successful global advocacy for strengthened legal frameworks around ECCE

We have been laying the groundwork for increased international attention on the issue of ECCE rights, building bridges between academia, civil society organisations (CSOs), and international organisations since 2020, and contributing to norm-setting documents such as the UNESCO Global Partnership Strategy for early childhood in 2021. Our continued ability to bring diverse actors around a common table shaped the conversation, raised awareness, and bore plentiful fruit in 2022. In October, the outgoing UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education published a report on ECCE, thanks in significant measure to our efforts to promote the salience of ECCE as a human rights issue. Our statement in response to this report summarises its significance as a milestone for young children's rights.

In addition, along with partners including the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, UNESCO representatives, civil society organisations and academics, during the year we strengthened a Global Advocacy Group on ECCE. This group, which we facilitate, meets regularly to discuss and launch collective actions to strengthen ECCE legal frameworks, and advocate, among other things, for one year free pre-primary education for all children. RTE worked to galvanise the Global Advocacy Group around advocacy efforts and possibilities emanating from the UNESCO World Conference on ECCE (WCECCE), held in November 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Alongside UNESCO and other CSOs we held the parallel event 'Strengthening the Legal Framework on ECCE', and side event 'Right from the start: the role of civil society actors and partnerships in advancing ECCE', successfully meeting our objective of shaping conversations around the rights and legal dimensions of ECCE, and bringing diverse international actors together to drive forward thinking. In addition, during the year we supported and participated in side events at the Human Rights Council, and the Transforming Education Summit and Pre-Summit.

Finally, in recognition of the importance of working not just at international level but with states, who as duty bearers must enact international law into national law and policy, we successfully developed close working relationships with right to education champion nations in 2022. In early November in a side event to the UN General Assembly, we brought together representatives of the State of Portugal alongside UNESCO, CSOs, academics, and the newly appointed UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Farida Shaheed, to discuss strengthening legal frameworks for universal access to inclusive and quality ECCE.



Challenging inequalities in higher education

Throughout the course of 2022 we worked to develop awareness and strategies for action around inequalities in higher education. We convened meetings and panel discussions on inequalities in education from a cross national perspective, and took part in UNESCO's World Higher Education Conference (WHEC). Our participation in WHEC enabled us to build bridges between different sectors and disciplines through our side events, whilst ensuring a rights framework was central to discussions in the UNESCO panel on new approaches to higher education in which we took part. A key achievement in 2022 was to co-draft a significant UNESCO policy document on the right to higher education knowledge document. This publication aims to help guide policy-makers, civil society and the international education community, to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate.

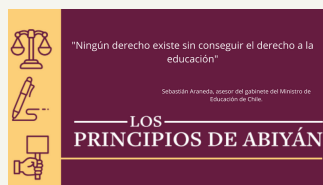
Also in 2022, we continued to work on our award winning collaboration with students from the Sciences Po law school clinic, to develop advocacy capacity and strategies on the topic of inequalities in higher education. This year we continued to build bridges between CSOs, parliamentarians and academics in France, bringing these sectors together for a session on the right to higher education in France exposing the issue and discussing solutions.



Promoting and defending the right to free quality public education against the commercialisation of education

We continued to support the implementation of the Abidjan Principles in a variety of national contexts, offering training and capacity building on their use, and supporting national partners. A significant part of our remit with regards the Abidjan Principles is promoting knowledge and awareness about the text among different audiences. Consequently, we supported the development and launch of the Abidjan Principles in Spanish and Portuguese, in addition to supporting and overseeing the development of the Arabic version. We also held a joint celebration for the Abidjan Principles third anniversary, bringing together activists, civil society organisations, academics and UNESCO representatives to discuss profit making in education. Committed to integrating the Abidjan Principles into policy discussions at multiple levels, we co-wrote a chapter on Integrating the Abidjan Principles on the Right to Education into the Constitution: Keys for the Chilean Process, which was published in Social Rights and the Constitutional Moment - Learning from Chile and International Experiences. While the draft constitution was rejected in a referendum held in September 2022, this process served to highlight the value of the Principles to new actors, in addition to raising awareness and shaping the debate on the normative dimensions of the right to education.

2
Additional recognitions
in 2022



16
Total number of
recognitions since 2019



Additionally, for several years, RTE has contributed to collective advocacy efforts to encourage international finance organisations to cease funding for commercial schooling. In 2022 we enjoyed a moment of significant achievement, as the International Finance Corporation (IFC) committed to divesting from international commercial school chain Bridge International Academies, now known as New Globe schools. This decision marks a significant break with IFC past practice, and reinforces the importance of monitoring, awareness raising and advocacy on the part of CSOs like ourselves. Crucially, the IFC's decision is in line with findings from UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2021/2, to which RTE contributed, which states that 'profit making is inconsistent with the commitment to guarantee free pre-primary, primary and secondary education'.



Supporting and capacity building the sector

RTE occupies a unique role within the education, development and human rights sectors. Whilst some of our work is outward facing, much of what we do is in service of the sectors in which we work. Across the year, we helped build capacity and support work at the intersection of these three fields in multiple ways.

Providing technical support and expertise on legal and policy issues

This is a growing area of RTE's work, and is one of the primary means through which we meet our twin objectives of strengthening the sectors in which we work, and strengthening the international human rights landscape.

We took part in teaching and capacity building across a range of domains, including facilitating a training in collaboration with the University of Geneva and GI-ESCR for civil society representatives from the global south on how to conduct research for advocacy on privatisation

In addition, we delivered teaching and training on the right to education at the British University of Colombia, and Mission de droits de l'enfant.

In 2022, we provided specialist technical support to colleagues in Latin America for the development of submissions to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) regarding ECCE rights in Peru, Guatemala and Argentina.

Contribution to networks

We are an active member of a range of networks, through which we dedicate time, capacity, and knowledge to colleagues from around the world. Beyond supporting collaborative initiatives, we help shape conversations and ensure that a rights-based approach is central to the understanding and practical functioning of these spaces. Among them are:

Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC)

We play an active role in PEHRC, facilitating global calls and leading streams of work on ECCE and privatisation, and education technology. We also provide regular inputs to colleagues in the form of peer learning sessions and training on topics on which we hold particular expertise, such as the [Abidjan Principles](#). Finally, throughout the year we helped galvanise advocacy efforts, drawing on our skills and experience conducting human rights advocacy to lead and contribute to initiatives for meaningful change.

The Francophone Network against the commercialization of education

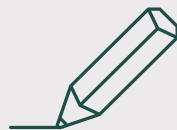
We sit on the facilitation group for this international network which works , and steer its strategic direction and priorities. Among the activities we engaged in were the [Second Day of Francophone Mobilisation against the commodification of education](#), in addition to contributing to training on research capacity towards the right to education in collaboration with the University of Geneva, which has led to the publication of reports and the renewal of the training for a subsequent year.

ESCR-NET

We continued to support ESCR-Net in 2022, forming part of the steering committee of the monitoring [working group](#) which seeks to promote and implement a human-rights based approach to data that can address imbalances in power, improve accountability and centre policymaking on people's lived experiences and perspectives - rather than serving the interests of powerful actors. In the spring, ESCR-Net launched the [Collective position on data and for economic, social and cultural rights](#), a document in whose development we played a significant role.

Working together to strengthen our collective potential

We believe that through collaboration, more can be achieved. One of our strengths in the sector is our extensive network of contacts, our multilingual ability (our team of four speaks seven languages), our agility, and our firm belief in participatory action. We work closely with partner organisations and networks to support others' initiatives, to shape joint endeavours, and to link and inspire collaboration between partners.



Supporting others' advocacy efforts

We signed the [joint letter to the G20 on education financing](#) which calls on Indonesia, in its role as G20 President, to support a commitment to 'protecting, prioritizing and increasing education financing' within the Leaders' Declaration, including ensuring financing mechanisms are fully funded.

We collaborated on the production of a joint statement on the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) divestment from [profit-driven school chain Bridge International Academies](#), calling on other global funders to follow the IFC's lead.

We collaborated on the [development and launch of a statement](#) in response to the report "Can Education be Standardized? Evidence from Kenya". This statement urges governments and other actors to recognise the limitations of this study, which some will seek to use to justify the expansion of for-profit private provision of education and scripted teaching methods.

Endorsements and in kind support

We are regularly called upon to support partners and international organisations with our in-house expertise. We review documents and reports to ensure the legal dimensions of the right to education are faithfully represented, we endorse and contribute to the development of tools and resources, and we support partners in their initiatives through the provision of materials and information.

- In 2022, we sponsored the fourth and seventh instalments of the Save the Children and partners How to Child Rights series
- We co-sponsored an online event organised by Human Rights Watch on Transforming Education: Advancing Children's Rights for Today's World
- We provided advice regarding advocacy strategies to the CSOs involved in the Basque platform against the privatisation of education
- Over several months we took part in multi-CSO meetings in relation to the CESCR review of the UK, in which our Executive Director contributed through knowledge sharing around RTE's experience and technical expertise as regards submissions to this treaty body
- We prepared a video and presentation about the Abidjan Principles for the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), which was used in dialogue with policy makers at multiple levels to raise concerns regarding the lack of land, resources and infrastructure planning for accessible public schools in Zimbabwe.



Defending rights from the very start

One of our primary areas of focus in 2022 was ECCE. We continued to drive forward a progressive agenda, catalysing efforts among actors from diverse sectors for advocacy and collective action to strengthen international legal frameworks and promote the right of all children to have one year of free, pre-primary education.

In addition to the successes in terms of global advocacy described on page 2, a core focus of our work on ECCE is to enhance the awareness and capacity of education actors, equipping them with the knowledge and tools to monitor, advocate and drive accountability on ECCE rights. We also seek to develop a wide network of diverse, interconnected actors with elevated ECCE understanding.

To this end, we worked to increase awareness, capacity and strengthened networks in multiple ways:



Alongside our partner organisation OMEP and network PEHRC, we launched an innovative international mapping project to track tendencies on ECCE and Privatisation at national levels which will enable evidence and data-driven advocacy efforts to take place in 2023.

4

networks contributed to, ensuring the rights dimension of ECCE is reflected

We participated in global fora and events, ensuring debates at multiple levels whilst contributing to consultations such as the World Policy Analysis centre's global initiative on measuring returns to lower to middle-income countries' (LMIC) investments in early childhood. We sit on the advisory group of this initiative, providing inputs from a human rights and practitioner's perspective.

6

documents, reports, and briefs published

We engaged new audiences with diverse aspects of ECCE, including via the launch of new multimedia resources like our series of video interviews, the first featuring World President of OMEP Mercedes Mayol Lassalle, and capitalising upon Education Day 2022 to highlight ECCE rights across multiple channels. We also enhanced ECCE understanding among different language communities, expanding our Arabic website readership on ECCE by 323%, and Spanish by 899%.

12

Events participated in



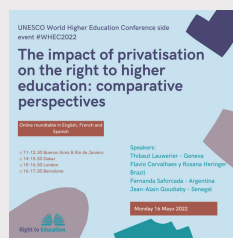
Knowledge is power: raising awareness on the right to education

We know that knowledge gives access to power, and the ability to hold states accountable for violations of the right to education. This is why we continued to place significant emphasis on raising awareness, providing tools and materials, and engaging with our key audiences across the world throughout 2022.

Representing the right to education at events and fora

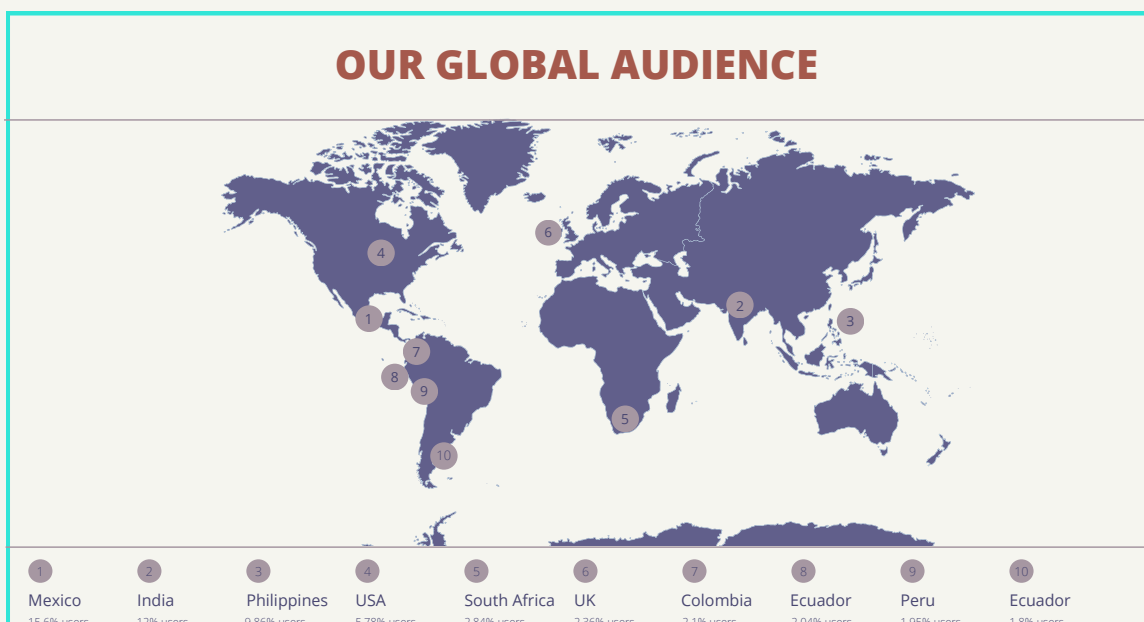
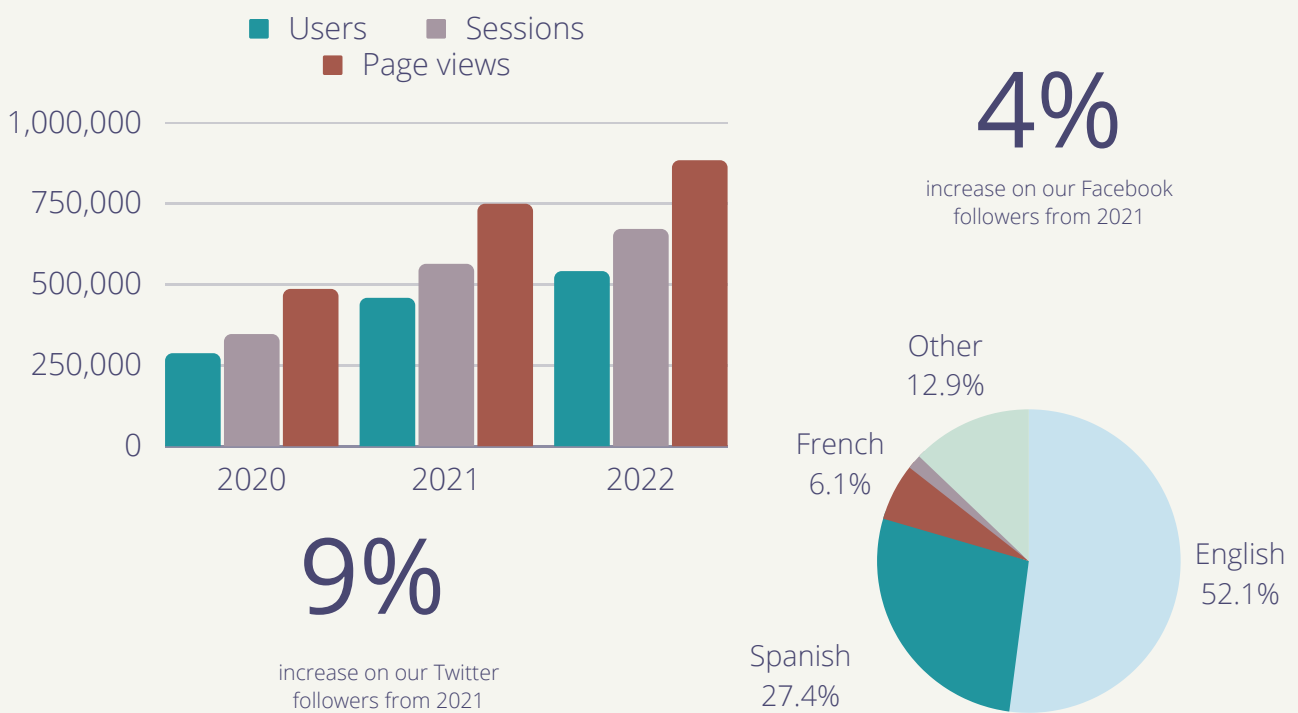
Throughout 2022 we contributed to a wide range of events, either through directly organising or participating. Event participation enables us to raise awareness while ensuring that a rights-based approach is central to discussions of education. We participated in more than 20 on and offline events in 2022, including but not limited to the following:

- [UNESCO World Higher Education Conference](#)
- [UNESCO World Conference on ECCE](#)
- [Transforming Education Pre-Summit: Public vs Private Transformative Solutions for Education](#)
- [CIES 2022](#)
- [The impact of privatisation on education: comparative perspectives](#)
- [Second day of Francophone mobilisation against the commodification of education](#)
- [Human Rights Day: UNESCO Transforming Education webinar](#)
- [Strengthening the legal framework of education: towards universal access to inclusive and quality ECCE](#)
- [Abidjan Principles third anniversary](#)



How we engage with audiences across the world

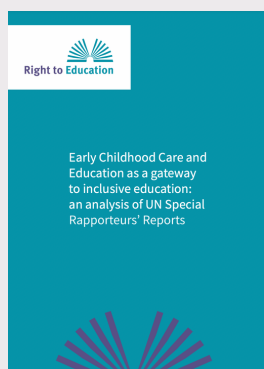
In 2022, we continued to provide resources, tools and knowledge to diverse audiences worldwide. The growth in our website readership figures demonstrates the continued importance of our role, and the breadth of downloaded content reflects our utility as a resource for CSOs, IOs, academics and education actors worldwide.



Providing tools and materials through our knowledge hub

RTE began life as a virtual library and repository for information on the right to education. We continue to honour these foundations, while seeking to provide targeted materials which fill a need and provide a tangible, practical use to the sector. This includes research and legal analysis on critical and emerging areas, in addition to tools for practical use gathering and using data.

2022: highlighted resources



Early Childhood Care and Education as a gateway to inclusive education: an analysis of UN Special Rapporteurs' Reports. This Right to Education Initiative brief explores ECCE related content from the reports of UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Education published between 1999 and 2021. It harnesses our legal expertise and enhanced knowledge and understanding of UN processes to provide a document which addresses thematic references, in country situations, best practices and policy recommendations.

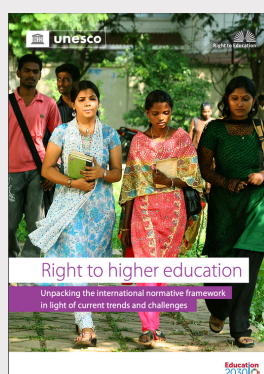
Documenting Education Under Attack: Five key lessons for collaborations between civil society organisations and journalists. This brief provides insight from a roundtable discussion held between journalists and CSOs in September 2021, providing five lessons for effective collaboration which bring benefits to journalists, CSOs, and affected communities.



UNESCO Gem Report 2021-2022: non-state actors in education: who chooses? who loses? RTE contributed a background paper to the prestigious UNESCO Gem Report, entitled 'Human rights to evaluate evidence on non-state involvement in education'.

Higher Education in France: A right threatened by increasing inequalities?. Focusing on the impacts of inequalities based on place of residence, indirect study costs and privatisation on the implementation of the right to Higher Education in France, this document illustrates the challenges related to the realisation of the right to higher education.

Overcoming these hurdles for a country like France could, a priori, be held up as an example to others. Lastly, this report highlights France's legally binding obligations and potential infringements, especially with regard to its role in financing the Higher Education system.



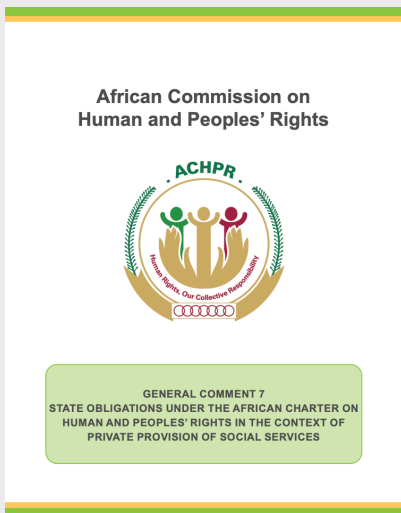
Right to Higher Education: Unpacking the international normative framework in light of current trends and challenges. This publication, drafted in collaboration with UNESCO, guides policy-makers, civil society and the international education community, to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate.

UN Treaty Bodies Concluding Observations on Higher Education (2016-2021) This document compiles the concerns and recommendations of UN Treaty Bodies for the period 2016-2021.



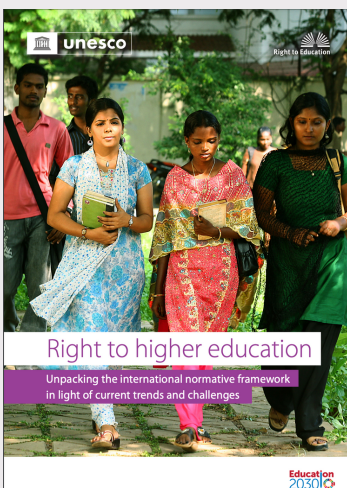
Setting and clarifying legal standards

A core impact area for RTE is our ability to set and clarify legal standards. In 2022 we continued this important legacy, and saw significant advances across our core thematic areas.



In late 2022, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights launched General Comment No. 7 on State obligations in the context of private provision of public services. This landmark comment provides the most comprehensive analysis and authoritative interpretation of existing human rights law regarding the provision of public services essential for the enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights. The Right to Education Initiative sat on the General Comment working committee and helped draft inputs to the General Comment, which references the Abidjan Principles.

A crucial achievement of the ECCE Global Advocacy Group was the co-drafting and publication of an UNESCO-led thematic document on building and strengthening the international legal framework, published shortly before WCECCE. This significant document sets the tone for debate on ECCE and legal frameworks at international level, and their application at national level.



Finally, our report on higher education drafted in collaboration with UNESCO clarifies international normative frameworks and sets clear guidance as to how the right to higher education can be implemented and enforced.

Our supporters

Financials

Many thanks to our donors, whose generosity of support makes our work possible. We were supported in 2022 by the following organisations:



We were also supported in kind by A4ID, and law firms including Anglo American, Dechert LLP, DLA Piper UK LLP, and Morrison Foerster.

Developing as an organisation

During 2022 we embarked upon an ambitious programme of internal reflection, to ensure that our ways of working, strategic priorities and economic model are best suited to the challenges the right to education faces, and the sector within which we work.

We were enabled by one of our supporters to work with two external consultants to develop an external review, which involved an extensive investigation into our own materials, alongside interviews with our partners, colleagues and board members.

The review has enabled us to better understand our impact and added value for the sector, in addition to the evolving role we hold and must shape for ourselves into the future.

**We thank you for your continued support to make the
right to education a reality.**

Our people, and our acknowledgements

Our team

Our multilingual team of four spans three nations and speaks a combined total of six languages:

- Delphine Dorsi, Executive Director
- Natalia Dzevelaia, Finance and administrative Manager
- Eleanor Rosenbach, Communications Manager
- Rajakumari Michaelsamy, ECCE Programme Manager

We were also joined in the first quarter of the year by Hoda Awwad, Programme Officer for non-state actors in education. Special thanks to consultants Susie Talbot and Juliana Lima, with whom we've worked closely this year, as well as consultants Danny Vannucchi and David Griffiths.

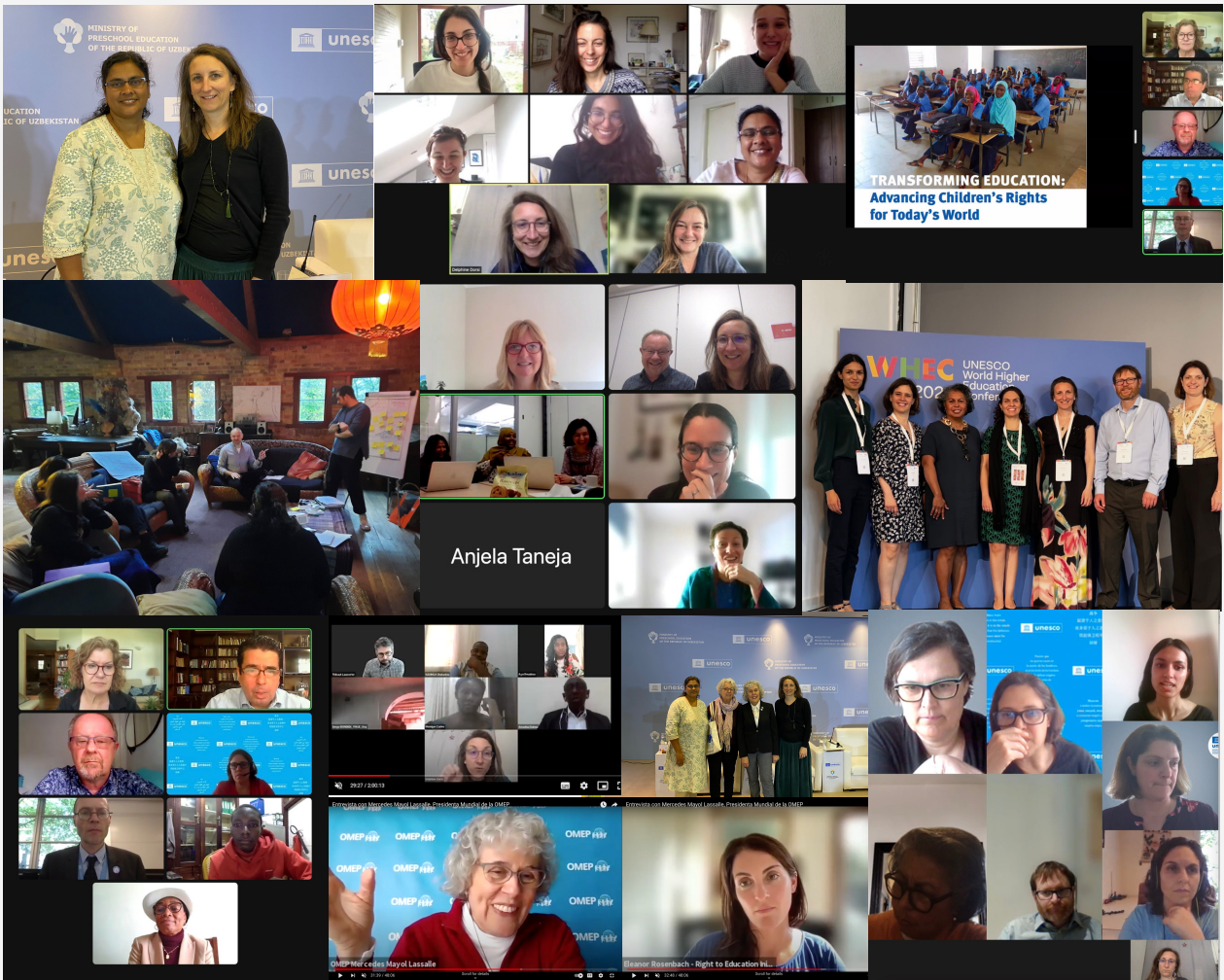
Our executive board

The executive board is RTE's governing body. It is presently composed of eight trustees representing a diverse range of actors from the human rights, development and education fields:

- Elin Martinez, Senior Researcher in the Children's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch (Chair of Trustees)
- David Archer, Head of Civic Participation, Tax Justice and Public Services at ActionAid
- Dina Hashem, Associate Director for Global Partnerships at Habitat for Humanity International
- Ayan Hassan, Programme Finance Manager at War Child UK
- Bharti Patel, Child Rights and Social Justice Advocate
- Nikki Skipper, Head of Fundraising at The Queen's Commonwealth Trust
- Anjela Taneja, Lead Campaigner Inequality / Lead Specialist Essential Services at Oxfam India
- Carole Coupez, Network representative - Solidarité Laïque
- Iain Byrne, Researcher/Legal Advisor, International Secretariat at Amnesty International - stepped down during the year

Our network of advisors

One of our assets as an organisation is the network of international experts on whose knowledge, expertise and guidance we can draw upon. Our network of advisors span sectors, continents and language communities - see the full list of individuals and their biographies here.



Get in touch with us

Right to Education Initiative

www.right-to-education.org

info@right-to-education.org



@RTEInitiative

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez (Chair)
A. Taneja
D. Hashem
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez
I.Saiz (appointed 30 June 2023)
S.Namusoby (appointed 30 June 2023)

Principal Office:

33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith
Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.

Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat.

There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Our vision

Our vision is a world in which everyone can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions from birth to adulthood and throughout life, regardless of their status and circumstances, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Over the course of 2022, we saw significant impact and progress across many areas of our work, primarily in terms of our four strategic priority areas of building bridges and catalysing action; supporting and capacity building the sector; raising awareness on the right to education; and setting and clarifying legal standards. Our main thematic areas of focus this year were early childhood care and education (ECCE), non-state actors in education, and higher education, though we have commenced work on educational technology, and continue to work on cross-cutting monitoring.

Strategic focus one: Building bridges and catalysing action

One of our core strengths is our ability to convene diverse actors to catalyse action for meaningful change. Drawing on our wide network and our in-house expertise and technical knowledge, we were able to drive forward progressive agendas on a range of issues throughout the year. The following is a snapshot rather than an extensive list of our achievements.

Successful global advocacy for strengthened legal frameworks around ECCE: We have been laying the groundwork for increased international attention on the issue of ECCE rights, building bridges between academia, civil society organisations (CSOs), and international organisations since 2020, and contributing to political documents such as the UNESCO Global Partnership Strategy for early childhood in 2021. In October, the outgoing UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education published a report on ECCE, thanks in significant measure to our efforts to promote the salience of ECCE as a human rights issue. Our statement in response to this report summarises its significance as a milestone for young children's rights. In addition, along with partners including the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, UNESCO representatives, civil society organisations and academics, during the year we strengthened a Global Advocacy Group on ECCE. RTE worked to galvanise the Global Advocacy Group around advocacy efforts and possibilities emanating from the

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

UNESCO World Conference on ECCE (WCECCE), held in November 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Alongside UNESCO and other CSOs we held the parallel event 'Strengthening the Legal Framework on ECCE', and side event 'Right from the start: the role of civil society actors and partnerships in advancing ECCE', successfully meeting our objective of shaping conversations around the rights and legal dimensions of ECCE, and bringing diverse international actors together to drive forward thinking. In addition, during the year we supported and participated in side events at the Human Rights Council, and the Transforming Education Summit and Pre-Summit.

Inequalities in higher education: Throughout the course of 2022 we worked to develop awareness and strategies for action around inequalities in higher education. We convened meetings and panel discussions on inequalities in education from a cross-national perspective, took part in UNESCO's World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), and ensured a rights framework was central to discussions in the UNESCO panel on new approaches to higher education. A further key achievement in 2022 was to co-draft a significant UNESCO policy document on the right to higher education knowledge document. This publication aims to help guide policy-makers, civil society and the international education community to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate. We also continued to work on our award winning collaboration with students from the Sciences Po law school clinic during the year, to develop advocacy capacity and strategies on the topic of inequalities in higher education.

Strategic focus two: Supporting and capacity building the sector

RTE occupies a unique role within the education, development and human rights sectors. Whilst some of our work is outward facing, much of what we do is in service of the sectors in which we work. Across the year, we helped build capacity and support work at the intersection of these three fields in multiple ways.

Contributing to networks: We contributed to three international networks: the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC), the Francophone Network on the Privatisation of Education, and ESCR-Net. We contributed to these networks with our time, capacity, in kind support and collaborative working, ensuring that a rights-based approach is central to the functioning of these spaces.

Providing technical support and expertise on legal and policy issues: This is a growing area of RTE's work, and one of the primary means through which we meet our twin objectives of strengthening the sectors in which we work, and strengthening the international human rights landscape. We provided specialist technical expertise to partners developing submissions for UN treaty bodies, and conducted training and capacity building in conjunction with CSOs and universities.

Supporting others' advocacy efforts, and shaping collective initiatives: we signed three joint letters and statements, lending out voice to collective advocacy efforts including a joint letter to the G20 on education financing; a joint statement on the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) divestment from profit-driven school chain Bridge International Academies; the development and launch of a statement in response to the report "Can Education be Standardized? Evidence from Kenya".

Endorsements and in-kind support: We are regularly called upon to support partners and international organisations with our in-house expertise. We review documents and reports to ensure the legal dimensions of the right to education are faithfully represented, we endorse and contribute to the development of tools and resources, and we support partners in their initiatives through the provision of materials and information. We sponsored, endorsed and contributed to a range of initiatives including multi-CSO meetings in relation to the UK's review to the CESCR, the fourth and seventh instalments of the Save the Children and partners How to Child Rights series, and an online event organised by Human Rights Watch on Transforming Education: Advancing Children's Rights for Today's World.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Strategic focus three: raising awareness on the right to education

We know that knowledge gives access to power, and the ability to hold states accountable for violations of the right to education. This is why we continued to place significant emphasis on raising awareness, providing tools and materials, and engaging with our key audiences across the world throughout 2022.

Throughout 2022 we contributed to a wide range of events, either through directly organising or participating. Event participation enables us to raise awareness while ensuring that a rights-based approach is central to discussions of education. We participated in more than 20 on and offline events this year, including two UNESCO world conferences on ECCE and Higher Education, the Comparative and International Education Society conference, and a UNESCO panel for Human Rights Day.

Providing tools and materials through our knowledge hub: RTE began life as a virtual library and repository for information on the right to education. We continue to honour these foundations, while seeking to provide targeted materials which fill a need and provide a tangible, practical use to the sector. This includes research and legal analysis on critical and emerging areas, in addition to tools for practical use gathering and using data. Some 2022 resources included:

- UNESCO GEM Report 2021-2022: non-state actors in education: who chooses? who loses?. RTE contributed a background paper to the prestigious UNESCO GEM Report, entitled 'Human rights to evaluate evidence on non-state involvement in education'.
- Early Childhood Care and Education as a gateway to inclusive education: an analysis of UN Special Rapporteurs' Reports: This Right to Education Initiative brief explores ECCE related content from the reports of UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Education published between 1999 and 2021. It harnesses our legal expertise and enhanced knowledge and understanding of UN processes to provide a document which addresses thematic references, in country situations, best practices and policy recommendations.
- Documenting Education Under Attack: Five key lessons for collaborations between civil society organisations and journalists: This brief provides insight from a roundtable discussion held between journalists and CSOs in September 2021, providing five lessons for effective collaboration which bring benefits to journalists, CSOs, and affected communities.
- Higher Education in France: A right threatened by increasing inequalities?: Focusing on the impacts of inequalities based on place of residence, indirect study costs and privatisation on the implementation of the right to higher education in France, this document illustrates the challenges related to the realisation of the right to higher education. Overcoming these hurdles for a country like France could, a priori, be held up as an example to others. Lastly, this report highlights France's legally binding obligations and potential infringements, especially with regard to its role in financing the higher education system.
- Right to Higher Education: Unpacking the international normative framework in light of current trends and challenges: This publication, drafted in collaboration with UNESCO, guides policy-makers, civil society and the international education community, to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate.
- UN Treaty Bodies Concluding Observations on Higher Education (2016-2021): This document compiles the concerns and recommendations of UN Treaty Bodies for the period 2016-2021 as regards the right to higher education.

Strategic focus four: Setting and clarifying legal standards

A core impact area for RTE is our ability to set and clarify legal standards. In 2022 we continued this important legacy, and saw significant advances across our core thematic areas.

- In late 2022, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights launched General Comment No. 7 on State obligations in the context of private provision of public services. This landmark comment provides the most comprehensive analysis and authoritative interpretation of existing human rights law regarding the provision of public services essential for the enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights. The Right to Education Initiative sat on the General Comment working committee and helped draft inputs to the General Comment, which references the Abidjan Principles.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

- A crucial achievement of the ECCE Global Advocacy Group, which we established and facilitate, was the co-drafting and publication of an UNESCO-led thematic document on building and strengthening the international legal framework, published shortly before UNESCO World Conference on ECCE. This significant document sets the tone for debate on ECCE and legal frameworks at international level, and their application at national level.
- Finally, our report on higher education drafted in collaboration with UNESCO clarifies international normative frameworks and sets clear guidance as to how the right to higher education can be implemented and enforced.

Highlight: Defending rights from the very start

One of our primary areas of focus in 2022 was early childhood care and education (ECCE). We continued to drive forward a progressive agenda, catalysing efforts among actors from diverse sectors for advocacy and collective action to strengthen international legal frameworks and promote the right of all children to have one year of free, pre-primary education.

In addition to the successes in terms of global advocacy described previously, a core focus of our work on ECCE is to enhance the awareness and capacity of education actors, equipping them with the knowledge and tools to monitor, advocate and drive accountability on ECCE rights. We also seek to develop a wide network of diverse, interconnected actors with elevated ECCE understanding.

To this end, we worked to increase awareness, capacity and strengthened networks in multiple ways. Alongside our partner organisation OMEP and network PEHRC, we launched an innovative international mapping project to track tendencies on ECCE and Privatisation at national levels which will enable evidence and data-driven advocacy efforts to take place in 2023.

We engaged new audiences with diverse aspects of ECCE, including via the launch of new multimedia resources like our series of video interviews, the first featuring World President of OMEP Mercedes Mayol Lassalle, and capitalising upon Education Day 2022 to highlight ECCE rights across multiple channels. We also enhanced ECCE understanding among different language communities, expanding our Arabic website readership on ECCE by 323%, and Spanish by 899%.

We participated in global fora and events, ensuring debates at multiple levels whilst contributing to consultations such as the World Policy Analysis centre's global initiative on measuring returns to lower to middle-income countries' (LMIC) investments in early childhood. We sit on the advisory group of this initiative, providing inputs from a human rights and practitioner's perspective.

ECCE in numbers:

- Participated in 12 events
- Published 6 documents, reports and briefs
- Contributed to 4 networks, ensuring the rights dimension of ECCE is reflected

Highlight: Promoting and defending the right to free quality public education against the commercialisation of education

We continued to support the implementation of the Abidjan Principles in a variety of national contexts, offering training and capacity building on their use, and supporting national partners. A significant part of our remit with regards the Abidjan Principles is promoting knowledge and awareness about the text among different audiences. Consequently, we supported the development and launch of the Abidjan Principles in Spanish and Portuguese, in addition to supporting and overseeing the development of the Arabic version. We also held a joint celebration for the Abidjan Principles third anniversary, bringing together activists, civil society organisations, academics and UNESCO representatives to discuss profit making in education. Committed to integrating the Abidjan Principles into policy discussions at multiple levels, we co-wrote a chapter on Integrating the Abidjan Principles on the Right to Education into the Constitution: Keys for the Chilean Process, which was published in Social Rights and the Constitutional Moment - Learning from Chile and International Experiences. While the draft constitution was rejected in a referendum held in September 2022, this process served to highlight the value of the Principles to new actors, in addition to raising awareness and shaping the debate on the normative dimensions of the right to education.

Additionally, for several years, RTE has contributed to collective advocacy efforts to encourage international finance organisations to cease funding for commercial schooling. In 2022 we enjoyed a

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

moment of significant achievement, as the International Finance Corporation (IFC) committed to divesting from international commercial school chain Bridge International Academies, now known as New Globe schools. This decision marks a significant break with IFC past practice, and reinforces the importance of monitoring, awareness raising and advocacy on the part of CSOs like ourselves. Crucially, the IFC's decision is in line with findings from UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2021/2, to which RTE contributed, which states that 'profit making is inconsistent with the commitment to guarantee free pre-primary, primary and secondary education'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2022

Total Income for the year 2022 amounted to £324,859, which was more than twice higher than prior year 2021 income and resulted in £121,179 surplus, which is mostly due to our main funder OSF closing educational sector grants and giving final 'General Purpose' grant to RTE. Our main donors in 2022 were Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Wellspring and we have also received funding from UNESCO.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2022 amounted to £303,666, £77,666 of this balance represents funding received in advance towards the next financial year and which has been treated as deferred income.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2023 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which includes risk management -and is discussed and updated at each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Based on external review made in 2022, RTE developed a new strategy in 2022 for the period 2023-26. This strategy will be accompanied by a financial sustainability strategy to be developed in 2023. RTE's priority is to diversify its sources of funding while seeking a balance between core funding and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

There were no new trustee appointments in 2022. David Archer stepped down as a chair and Elin Martinez was appointed as a new chair on 13th May 2022 Board Meeting.

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 8 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 8 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

No additional staff members recruited in 2022.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 31st July 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Ayan Hassan
Treasurer



RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
SM1 4BW

25th August 2023

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	2	324,281	324,281	149,138
Investments	3	251	251	-
Other income		327	327	-
		<u>324,859</u>	<u>324,859</u>	<u>149,138</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	4	203,680	203,680	191,073
		<u>203,680</u>	<u>203,680</u>	<u>191,073</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	7	<u>121,179</u>	<u>121,179</u>	<u>(41,935)</u>
Net movement in funds		121,179	121,179	(41,935)
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance brought forward		<u>97,629</u>	<u>97,629</u>	<u>139,564</u>
Balance carried forward		<u><u>£218,808</u></u>	<u><u>£218,808</u></u>	<u><u>£97,629</u></u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	318	740
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>303,666</u>	<u>154,006</u>
		303,984	154,746
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>85,176</u>	<u>57,117</u>
NET ASSETS	10	<u>218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>
Represented by:			
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	10	<u>218,808</u>	<u>97,629</u>
		<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31st July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Treasurer
Ayan Hassan



The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Grants and Contracts			
UNESCO	7,640	7,640	50
Wellspring (2021 via CRIN)	66,245	66,245	70,581
Open Society Foundations	250,396	250,396	78,507
	<u>£324,281</u>	<u>£324,281</u>	<u>£149,138</u>

In May 2017, Child Right International Network (CRIN) and Right to Education Initiative (RTE) signed an MOU (extended in July 2020) where CRIN agreed to support RTE through three incubation phases of fiscal sponsorship, then fiscal agency, and then full independence (the "incubation period"). This incubation period came to its conclusion on 1st of July of 2021. However, following agreement between CRIN, RTE and RTE's current donors, RTE became administratively, financially and fiscally independent from CRIN on 31st of July of 2020 and CRIN released accumulated funds in full to RTE, which had been kept on a separate CRIN/RTE account.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£	£	£
Bank interest	<u>251</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>-</u>

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Direct Costs			
Salaries, fees and related costs	198,753	198,753	176,217
Foreign exchange gains	(16,392)	(16,392)	2,233
Payroll costs	-	-	507
Travel and subsistence	13,927	13,927	206
	<u>£196,288</u>	<u>£196,288</u>	<u>£179,163</u>
Support Costs			
Office and administration costs	581	581	507
Website, computer and IT costs	981	981	608
Governance (see note 5)	1,800	1,800	1,650
Insurance	1,104	1,104	196
Subscriptions	2,824	2,824	5,696
Advertising, printing & design	102	102	3,253
	<u>£7,392</u>	<u>£7,392</u>	<u>£11,910</u>
	<u>£203,680</u>	<u>£203,680</u>	<u>£191,073</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examination	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,650</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	94,817	81,173
Social security	16,277	19,052
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	6,562	6,609
	<u>£117,656</u>	<u>£106,834</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3 (2021: 3). The average number based on full time equivalents was 3 (2021: 2).

1 employee (2021: 1) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

6. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £68,402 (2021: £65,018). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

7. NET INCOME

	2022	2021
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,650
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,650</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	318	740
	<u>£318</u>	<u>£740</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	6,235	4,574
Deferred income	77,666	50,146
Other creditors	1,275	2,397
	<u>£85,176</u>	<u>£57,117</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Open Society Institute	-	148,290	98,860	49,430
Wellspring	50,146	42,355	64,265	28,236
	<u>£50,146</u>	<u>£190,645</u>	<u>£163,125</u>	<u>£77,666</u>

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	303,984	303,984	154,746
Current liabilities	(85,176)	(85,176)	(57,117)
As at 31 December 2022	<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2022 (2021: Nil)

12. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez (Chair)
A. Taneja
D. Hashem
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez
I.Saiz (appointed 30 June 2023)
S.Namusoby (appointed 30 June 2023)

Principal Office:

33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith
Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

We are a non-governmental international human rights organisation dedicated entirely to the promotion and defence of the right to education.

Why we exist

We exist because the right to education is not fully realised, is still violated and is under constant and evolving threat.

There is a demonstrable need within the human rights, education and development sectors for a civil society organisation to be an expert on the right to education and act as its guardian. We exist to promote and defend education as a human right at international level, and to support civil society actors to understand and use human rights law and mechanisms to advance the realisation of the right to education at national level, holding states accountable through monitoring, reporting, advocacy and litigation.

Our vision

Our vision is a world in which everyone can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions from birth to adulthood and throughout life, regardless of their status and circumstances, and where all human rights in and through education are respected, protected and realised.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Over the course of 2022, we saw significant impact and progress across many areas of our work, primarily in terms of our four strategic priority areas of building bridges and catalysing action; supporting and capacity building the sector; raising awareness on the right to education; and setting and clarifying legal standards. Our main thematic areas of focus this year were early childhood care and education (ECCE), non-state actors in education, and higher education, though we have commenced work on educational technology, and continue to work on cross-cutting monitoring.

Strategic focus one: Building bridges and catalysing action

One of our core strengths is our ability to convene diverse actors to catalyse action for meaningful change. Drawing on our wide network and our in-house expertise and technical knowledge, we were able to drive forward progressive agendas on a range of issues throughout the year. The following is a snapshot rather than an extensive list of our achievements.

Successful global advocacy for strengthened legal frameworks around ECCE: We have been laying the groundwork for increased international attention on the issue of ECCE rights, building bridges between academia, civil society organisations (CSOs), and international organisations since 2020, and contributing to political documents such as the UNESCO Global Partnership Strategy for early childhood in 2021. In October, the outgoing UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education published a report on ECCE, thanks in significant measure to our efforts to promote the salience of ECCE as a human rights issue. Our statement in response to this report summarises its significance as a milestone for young children's rights. In addition, along with partners including the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, UNESCO representatives, civil society organisations and academics, during the year we strengthened a Global Advocacy Group on ECCE. RTE worked to galvanise the Global Advocacy Group around advocacy efforts and possibilities emanating from the

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

UNESCO World Conference on ECCE (WCECCE), held in November 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Alongside UNESCO and other CSOs we held the parallel event 'Strengthening the Legal Framework on ECCE', and side event 'Right from the start: the role of civil society actors and partnerships in advancing ECCE', successfully meeting our objective of shaping conversations around the rights and legal dimensions of ECCE, and bringing diverse international actors together to drive forward thinking. In addition, during the year we supported and participated in side events at the Human Rights Council, and the Transforming Education Summit and Pre-Summit.

Inequalities in higher education: Throughout the course of 2022 we worked to develop awareness and strategies for action around inequalities in higher education. We convened meetings and panel discussions on inequalities in education from a cross-national perspective, took part in UNESCO's World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), and ensured a rights framework was central to discussions in the UNESCO panel on new approaches to higher education. A further key achievement in 2022 was to co-draft a significant UNESCO policy document on the right to higher education knowledge document. This publication aims to help guide policy-makers, civil society and the international education community to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate. We also continued to work on our award winning collaboration with students from the Sciences Po law school clinic during the year, to develop advocacy capacity and strategies on the topic of inequalities in higher education.

Strategic focus two: Supporting and capacity building the sector

RTE occupies a unique role within the education, development and human rights sectors. Whilst some of our work is outward facing, much of what we do is in service of the sectors in which we work. Across the year, we helped build capacity and support work at the intersection of these three fields in multiple ways.

Contributing to networks: We contributed to three international networks: the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC), the Francophone Network on the Privatisation of Education, and ESCR-Net. We contributed to these networks with our time, capacity, in kind support and collaborative working, ensuring that a rights-based approach is central to the functioning of these spaces.

Providing technical support and expertise on legal and policy issues: This is a growing area of RTE's work, and one of the primary means through which we meet our twin objectives of strengthening the sectors in which we work, and strengthening the international human rights landscape. We provided specialist technical expertise to partners developing submissions for UN treaty bodies, and conducted training and capacity building in conjunction with CSOs and universities.

Supporting others' advocacy efforts, and shaping collective initiatives: we signed three joint letters and statements, lending out voice to collective advocacy efforts including a joint letter to the G20 on education financing; a joint statement on the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) divestment from profit-driven school chain Bridge International Academies; the development and launch of a statement in response to the report "Can Education be Standardized? Evidence from Kenya".

Endorsements and in-kind support: We are regularly called upon to support partners and international organisations with our in-house expertise. We review documents and reports to ensure the legal dimensions of the right to education are faithfully represented, we endorse and contribute to the development of tools and resources, and we support partners in their initiatives through the provision of materials and information. We sponsored, endorsed and contributed to a range of initiatives including multi-CSO meetings in relation to the UK's review to the CESCR, the fourth and seventh instalments of the Save the Children and partners How to Child Rights series, and an online event organised by Human Rights Watch on Transforming Education: Advancing Children's Rights for Today's World.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Strategic focus three: raising awareness on the right to education

We know that knowledge gives access to power, and the ability to hold states accountable for violations of the right to education. This is why we continued to place significant emphasis on raising awareness, providing tools and materials, and engaging with our key audiences across the world throughout 2022.

Throughout 2022 we contributed to a wide range of events, either through directly organising or participating. Event participation enables us to raise awareness while ensuring that a rights-based approach is central to discussions of education. We participated in more than 20 on and offline events this year, including two UNESCO world conferences on ECCE and Higher Education, the Comparative and International Education Society conference, and a UNESCO panel for Human Rights Day.

Providing tools and materials through our knowledge hub: RTE began life as a virtual library and repository for information on the right to education. We continue to honour these foundations, while seeking to provide targeted materials which fill a need and provide a tangible, practical use to the sector. This includes research and legal analysis on critical and emerging areas, in addition to tools for practical use gathering and using data. Some 2022 resources included:

- UNESCO GEM Report 2021-2022: non-state actors in education: who chooses? who loses?. RTE contributed a background paper to the prestigious UNESCO GEM Report, entitled 'Human rights to evaluate evidence on non-state involvement in education'.
- Early Childhood Care and Education as a gateway to inclusive education: an analysis of UN Special Rapporteurs' Reports: This Right to Education Initiative brief explores ECCE related content from the reports of UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Education published between 1999 and 2021. It harnesses our legal expertise and enhanced knowledge and understanding of UN processes to provide a document which addresses thematic references, in country situations, best practices and policy recommendations.
- Documenting Education Under Attack: Five key lessons for collaborations between civil society organisations and journalists: This brief provides insight from a roundtable discussion held between journalists and CSOs in September 2021, providing five lessons for effective collaboration which bring benefits to journalists, CSOs, and affected communities.
- Higher Education in France: A right threatened by increasing inequalities?: Focusing on the impacts of inequalities based on place of residence, indirect study costs and privatisation on the implementation of the right to higher education in France, this document illustrates the challenges related to the realisation of the right to higher education. Overcoming these hurdles for a country like France could, a priori, be held up as an example to others. Lastly, this report highlights France's legally binding obligations and potential infringements, especially with regard to its role in financing the higher education system.
- Right to Higher Education: Unpacking the international normative framework in light of current trends and challenges: This publication, drafted in collaboration with UNESCO, guides policy-makers, civil society and the international education community, to fully enforce the right to higher education and ensure that the human-rights based approach is placed at the heart of the higher education debate.
- UN Treaty Bodies Concluding Observations on Higher Education (2016-2021): This document compiles the concerns and recommendations of UN Treaty Bodies for the period 2016-2021 as regards the right to higher education.

Strategic focus four: Setting and clarifying legal standards

A core impact area for RTE is our ability to set and clarify legal standards. In 2022 we continued this important legacy, and saw significant advances across our core thematic areas.

- In late 2022, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights launched General Comment No. 7 on State obligations in the context of private provision of public services. This landmark comment provides the most comprehensive analysis and authoritative interpretation of existing human rights law regarding the provision of public services essential for the enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights. The Right to Education Initiative sat on the General Comment working committee and helped draft inputs to the General Comment, which references the Abidjan Principles.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

- A crucial achievement of the ECCE Global Advocacy Group, which we established and facilitate, was the co-drafting and publication of an UNESCO-led thematic document on building and strengthening the international legal framework, published shortly before UNESCO World Conference on ECCE. This significant document sets the tone for debate on ECCE and legal frameworks at international level, and their application at national level.
- Finally, our report on higher education drafted in collaboration with UNESCO clarifies international normative frameworks and sets clear guidance as to how the right to higher education can be implemented and enforced.

Highlight: Defending rights from the very start

One of our primary areas of focus in 2022 was early childhood care and education (ECCE). We continued to drive forward a progressive agenda, catalysing efforts among actors from diverse sectors for advocacy and collective action to strengthen international legal frameworks and promote the right of all children to have one year of free, pre-primary education.

In addition to the successes in terms of global advocacy described previously, a core focus of our work on ECCE is to enhance the awareness and capacity of education actors, equipping them with the knowledge and tools to monitor, advocate and drive accountability on ECCE rights. We also seek to develop a wide network of diverse, interconnected actors with elevated ECCE understanding.

To this end, we worked to increase awareness, capacity and strengthened networks in multiple ways. Alongside our partner organisation OMEP and network PEHRC, we launched an innovative international mapping project to track tendencies on ECCE and Privatisation at national levels which will enable evidence and data-driven advocacy efforts to take place in 2023.

We engaged new audiences with diverse aspects of ECCE, including via the launch of new multimedia resources like our series of video interviews, the first featuring World President of OMEP Mercedes Mayol Lassalle, and capitalising upon Education Day 2022 to highlight ECCE rights across multiple channels. We also enhanced ECCE understanding among different language communities, expanding our Arabic website readership on ECCE by 323%, and Spanish by 899%.

We participated in global fora and events, ensuring debates at multiple levels whilst contributing to consultations such as the World Policy Analysis centre's global initiative on measuring returns to lower to middle-income countries' (LMIC) investments in early childhood. We sit on the advisory group of this initiative, providing inputs from a human rights and practitioner's perspective.

ECCE in numbers:

- Participated in 12 events
- Published 6 documents, reports and briefs
- Contributed to 4 networks, ensuring the rights dimension of ECCE is reflected

Highlight: Promoting and defending the right to free quality public education against the commercialisation of education

We continued to support the implementation of the Abidjan Principles in a variety of national contexts, offering training and capacity building on their use, and supporting national partners. A significant part of our remit with regards the Abidjan Principles is promoting knowledge and awareness about the text among different audiences. Consequently, we supported the development and launch of the Abidjan Principles in Spanish and Portuguese, in addition to supporting and overseeing the development of the Arabic version. We also held a joint celebration for the Abidjan Principles third anniversary, bringing together activists, civil society organisations, academics and UNESCO representatives to discuss profit making in education. Committed to integrating the Abidjan Principles into policy discussions at multiple levels, we co-wrote a chapter on Integrating the Abidjan Principles on the Right to Education into the Constitution: Keys for the Chilean Process, which was published in Social Rights and the Constitutional Moment - Learning from Chile and International Experiences. While the draft constitution was rejected in a referendum held in September 2022, this process served to highlight the value of the Principles to new actors, in addition to raising awareness and shaping the debate on the normative dimensions of the right to education.

Additionally, for several years, RTE has contributed to collective advocacy efforts to encourage international finance organisations to cease funding for commercial schooling. In 2022 we enjoyed a

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

moment of significant achievement, as the International Finance Corporation (IFC) committed to divesting from international commercial school chain Bridge International Academies, now known as New Globe schools. This decision marks a significant break with IFC past practice, and reinforces the importance of monitoring, awareness raising and advocacy on the part of CSOs like ourselves. Crucially, the IFC's decision is in line with findings from UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2021/2, to which RTE contributed, which states that 'profit making is inconsistent with the commitment to guarantee free pre-primary, primary and secondary education'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2022

Total Income for the year 2022 amounted to £324,859, which was more than twice higher than prior year 2021 income and resulted in £121,179 surplus, which is mostly due to our main funder OSF closing educational sector grants and giving final 'General Purpose' grant to RTE. Our main donors in 2022 were Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Wellspring and we have also received funding from UNESCO.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2022 amounted to £303,666, £77,666 of this balance represents funding received in advance towards the next financial year and which has been treated as deferred income.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2023 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which includes risk management -and is discussed and updated at each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Based on external review made in 2022, RTE developed a new strategy in 2022 for the period 2023-26. This strategy will be accompanied by a financial sustainability strategy to be developed in 2023. RTE's priority is to diversify its sources of funding while seeking a balance between core funding and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

There were no new trustee appointments in 2022. David Archer stepped down as a chair and Elin Martinez was appointed as a new chair on 13th May 2022 Board Meeting.

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 8 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 8 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

No additional staff members recruited in 2022.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 31st July 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Ayan Hassan
Treasurer



RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
SM1 4BW

25th August 2023

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	2	324,281	324,281	149,138
Investments	3	251	251	-
Other income		327	327	-
		<u>324,859</u>	<u>324,859</u>	<u>149,138</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	4	203,680	203,680	191,073
		<u>203,680</u>	<u>203,680</u>	<u>191,073</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	7	<u>121,179</u>	<u>121,179</u>	<u>(41,935)</u>
Net movement in funds		121,179	121,179	(41,935)
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance brought forward		<u>97,629</u>	<u>97,629</u>	<u>139,564</u>
Balance carried forward		<u><u>£218,808</u></u>	<u><u>£218,808</u></u>	<u><u>£97,629</u></u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	318	740
Cash at bank and in hand		303,666	154,006
		<u>303,984</u>	<u>154,746</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>85,176</u>	<u>57,117</u>
NET ASSETS	10	<u>218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>
Represented by:			
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	10	218,808	97,629
		<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31st July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Treasurer
Ayan Hassan



The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Grants and Contracts			
UNESCO	7,640	7,640	50
Wellspring (2021 via CRIN)	66,245	66,245	70,581
Open Society Foundations	250,396	250,396	78,507
	<u>£324,281</u>	<u>£324,281</u>	<u>£149,138</u>

In May 2017, Child Right International Network (CRIN) and Right to Education Initiative (RTE) signed an MOU (extended in July 2020) where CRIN agreed to support RTE through three incubation phases of fiscal sponsorship, then fiscal agency, and then full independence (the "incubation period"). This incubation period came to its conclusion on 1st of July of 2021. However, following agreement between CRIN, RTE and RTE's current donors, RTE became administratively, financially and fiscally independent from CRIN on 31st of July of 2020 and CRIN released accumulated funds in full to RTE, which had been kept on a separate CRIN/RTE account.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£	£	£
Bank interest	<u>251</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>-</u>

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Direct Costs			
Salaries, fees and related costs	198,753	198,753	176,217
Foreign exchange gains	(16,392)	(16,392)	2,233
Payroll costs	-	-	507
Travel and subsistence	13,927	13,927	206
	<u>£196,288</u>	<u>£196,288</u>	<u>£179,163</u>
Support Costs			
Office and administration costs	581	581	507
Website, computer and IT costs	981	981	608
Governance (see note 5)	1,800	1,800	1,650
Insurance	1,104	1,104	196
Subscriptions	2,824	2,824	5,696
Advertising, printing & design	102	102	3,253
	<u>£7,392</u>	<u>£7,392</u>	<u>£11,910</u>
	<u>£203,680</u>	<u>£203,680</u>	<u>£191,073</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examination	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,650</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	94,817	81,173
Social security	16,277	19,052
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	6,562	6,609
	<u>£117,656</u>	<u>£106,834</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3 (2021: 3). The average number based on full time equivalents was 3 (2021: 2).

1 employee (2021: 1) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

6. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £68,402 (2021: £65,018). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

7. NET INCOME

	2022	2021
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,800	£1,650
	<u>£1,800</u>	<u>£1,650</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	318	740
	<u>£318</u>	<u>£740</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	6,235	4,574
Deferred income	77,666	50,146
Other creditors	1,275	2,397
	<u>£85,176</u>	<u>£57,117</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Open Society Institute	-	148,290	98,860	49,430
Wellspring	50,146	42,355	64,265	28,236
	<u>£50,146</u>	<u>£190,645</u>	<u>£163,125</u>	<u>£77,666</u>

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

/cont

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	303,984	303,984	154,746
Current liabilities	(85,176)	(85,176)	(57,117)
As at 31 December 2022	<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£218,808</u>	<u>£97,629</u>

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2022 (2021: Nil)

12. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1173115

Accounts

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer (Chair)
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez
I. Byrne (resigned 08.12.2021)
A. Taneja
D. Hashem
N. Skipper
B. Patel
C. Coupez (appointed 23.09.2021)

Principal Office:

33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith
Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Executive summary

We often hear the phrase 'new normal' in discussions of the pandemic and post pandemic. Little about the last two years can be seen as normal, but I am constantly awed by the capacity of individuals and communities to adapt to changing parameters, and to find the rays of light in a panorama of darkness.

Undoubtedly, this has been a difficult year for education systems, for educators, and for learners. Many children spent much of 2021 outside of the classroom, with 616 million affected by school closures. As the economic impact of almost two years of recession has begun to bite, many children have left school permanently, and others face significant risk of school dropout through poverty, marginalisation, early and unintended pregnancy, marriage, and creeping privatisation. Meanwhile, this year saw the continuation, intensification and initiation of conflicts, with dire impacts on the right to education for many children and young people.

Yet this difficult year also inspired new collaborations, and renewed energy with which to bring justice, accountability and greater realisation of the right to education. Despite the challenges we faced, I am proud to report on the energy, dedication and professionalism harnessed by our newly expanded team to advance the right to education across multiple dimensions in delivering public benefit.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities

This year, we took great strides forwards on issues such as early childhood care and education and privatisation, engaging cross sectoral support for advocacy initiatives and raising momentum behind initiatives to enhance the access to and quality of education. We have raised the issue of higher education privatisation and territorial inequalities in education in academia, policy and human rights circles, while developing training initiatives and resources, and working to shape the minds of the next generation of decision makers. We have helped place education under attack back on the agenda of many, with the release of materials and efforts to boost collaboration between sectors for reporting and documentation.

At the close of another year blighted by the global pandemic, I am at once inspired and humbled by the indefatigable efforts of the education and human rights sector, and the contributions of my team. This report details the main highlights of our year, none of which would have been possible without the generous support of our donors, whose continued belief in our work helps make the right to education a reality.

About us

Who we are: We are an international human rights organisation focusing on the right to education.

What we do: Through a combination of research, advocacy, legal analysis and the development and provision of tools and resources, we engage with a wide range of individuals, actors and organisations to enhance the enjoyment of the right to education for all.

Why we do it: The right to education is a fundamental right, but for many it is not a reality. From commercialisation in education limiting access and inclusion, to the exclusion of girls from education for structural, social and economic reasons; from the violation of education in the context of conflict, to limited access to early childhood care and education for multiple groups, there are myriad ways in which the right to education is denied. We are working to change this, so that learners of all ages have access and enjoyment to the right to education.

Find out more about us

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Building bridges

Core to our mission is to build bridges between different sectors, actors and language communities. We are a small, agile team and play a catalytic role in linking people and ideas to generate long term progress for the right to education.

Influencing strategic developments on law and policy

Long term change happens through the structures of legislation and governance. In recognition of this, we work to shape and influence policy and law at international level, for the benefit of learners worldwide.

- We helped draft UNESCO's flagship Global Partnership Strategy for Early Childhood, born out of the necessity to counter two negative trends in education - school closures and the decline in funding for education among many low and middle income countries. We provided regular inputs to the development of the strategy, published in December 2021, which included drafting a section, and took part in the launch event as one of the key partners.
- In November, UNESCO published its flagship report 'Reimagining our futures together: a new social contract for education', the culmination of a participatory process spanning two years. We provided inputs to the consultation, and took part in the International Seminar on the Evolving Right to Education on 7-8 December.

Raising awareness

Knowledge is power. We believe that everyone should have access to information which enables them to advocate for their rights, and we work to provide relevant, accessible information to a wide variety of groups.

- **Shaping curious minds:** We have delivered in person and on-line teaching to students at Sciences Po and the British University of Colombia, in addition to ongoing work with a group of students from the Science Po Law School Clinic.
- **Arming the bearers of knowledge:** through collaborative work with academics from the University of Sacramento, California, University College London, and the University of Geneva, we have raised awareness to the academic and research community regarding privatisation and commercialisation in education. We also strive to build bridges between education and human rights, raising awareness and assisting education researchers to use human rights in their research.
- **Making information available to global audiences:** our open source resource library makes information on the multiple dimensions of the right to education available to global audiences.

Highlight: early childhood care and education (ECCE)

ECCE is a major area of focus for RTE, and one which saw substantial growth and progression in 2021. We are one of leading voices in the field, building bridges between different actors, inspiring advocacy, and influencing law and policy at the highest levels.

- **Shaping the research and policy agenda:** in January 2021, UNESCO published Right to pre-primary education: a global study, a global overview and analysis of the adoption of legal provisions for free and compulsory pre-primary education at national level, prepared in cooperation with the RTE and using in-depth research on 17 countries which we carried out.
- **Strengthening collaboration:** over the course of the year we have worked closely with global players and opinion formers, strengthening collaboration between actors from different sectors including international organisations, civil society organisations across three continents, and academics, and working together to spearhead global advocacy efforts.
- **Shaping the global conversation:** we participated in five events relating to ECCE over the year, two of which we organised. Among these include the OMEP, UNESCO and RTE seminar: What's happening with ECCE in the World?; our CIES panel event on ECCE and legal frameworks; and OMEP's seminar: Early childhood care and education (ECCE) in debate.

Working together to strengthen our collective potential

We believe that through collaboration, more can be achieved. One of our strengths in the sector is our extensive network of contacts, our multilingual ability (our team of five speaks nine languages), our agility, and our firm belief in participatory action. We work closely with partner organisations and

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

networks to support others' initiatives, to shape joint endeavours, and to link and inspire collaboration between partners.

In 2021, we continued to play a consistent role in networks such as the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium, INEE, ESCR-Net, and the Francophone Network against the commercialisation of education.

Highlight: Higher Education

For three years, we have worked collaboratively with students from Sciences Po Law School Clinic to address the issue of territorial inequalities in higher education.

Throughout 2021, as the pandemic continued to disrupt learning across the globe, we focused on the impact of Covid-19 on higher education. In June, we held a roundtable event bringing together French politicians, civil society representatives and students to discuss the ways in which the pandemic combined territorial and connectivity issues to the detriment of many. This event generated media attention, and led to greater collaborations with researchers on the issue of privatisation and financing.

Over the summer, we published a blog series entitled: 'The impacts of Covid-19 on Higher Education: the student perspective', which has been widely read and shared, securing more than 4000 engagements. We also published a case law document and updated policy brief and report, supporting increased awareness raising and enhanced accessibility of legal precedents.

Finally, in line with our mission to make human rights information accessible and available, we updated our Higher Education issue page and translated it into French, Arabic and Spanish.

Making human rights accessible through tools, research and training

We believe that for human rights to be enjoyed by more people, they must be accessible and understood. We produce tools and materials to enhance understanding and facilitate advocacy, and provide training on specific dimensions of the right to education. This year we produced tools and guides

Advocacy and campaigning

Pivotal to our work is effective advocacy and campaigning to raise awareness of the right to education and ensure progress is made towards the realisation of this right in international fora. Among our key activities this year include:

- **We participated in the Abidjan Principles campaign led by ICJ,**
- **Right to Education Initiative and 24 civil society organisation partners co-signed a public statement welcoming the Human Rights Council's resolution on the right to education.**
- **We inspire and provide tools to support others' advocacy efforts.**

Providing expertise and assistance

We are regularly called upon to take part in discussions as an expert contributor, to assist in the development or review of academic and legal texts, and to advise on strategic human rights priorities. This is testament to the recognition of our collective knowledge and the vital role we play in bringing together education and human rights.

Please note together with Financial Statements, the Right to Education Initiative published its 2021 Annual Report in which you can find more details on RTE's activities. [Access the Annual Report here.](#)

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2021

Total income for the year amounted to £149,138. Our main funder for the year since separating from CRIN was Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Wellspring.

Total Expenditure amounted to £191,073 and was fully spent on charitable activities.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2021 amounted to £154,746, £50,146 of this balance represents funding received in advance towards the next financial year and which has been treated as deferred income.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2022 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grants - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which is discussed and updated on each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

A fundraising strategy has been developed to accompany RTE strategy for 2020-2022. This has a priority for diversifying our funding base and seeking a balance between core funding for a core team and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, and the selling of products or services.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Members of the Council

RTE appointed 1 new trustee (Carole A Coupez) and 1 resigned (Iain Byrne) in 2021.

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 8 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 8 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of eight trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all eight members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with the Executive Director. Director oversees all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

No new staff members appointed in 2021.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29th Sept 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Ayan Hassan (Treasurer)
Trustee

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 11 to 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
SM1 4BW

12th October 2022

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	2	149,138	149,138	204,987
		<u>149,138</u>	<u>149,138</u>	<u>204,987</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	3	191,073	191,073	65,423
		<u>191,073</u>	<u>191,073</u>	<u>65,423</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	6	<u>(41,935)</u>	<u>(41,935)</u>	<u>139,564</u>
Net movement in funds		(41,935)	(41,935)	139,564
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance brought forward		139,564	139,564	-
Balance carried forward		<u>£97,629</u>	<u>£97,629</u>	<u>£139,564</u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Debtors	7	740		1,689	
Cash at bank and in hand		154,006		242,697	
		<u>154,746</u>		<u>244,386</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	8	<u>57,117</u>		<u>104,822</u>	
NET ASSETS	9		<u>£97,629</u>		<u>£139,564</u>
Represented by:					
FUNDS					
Unrestricted	9		<u>97,629</u>		<u>139,564</u>
			<u>£97,629</u>		<u>£139,564</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 29th Sept 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Ayan Hassan (Treasurer)
Trustee

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2021	Total 2020 £
Grants and Contracts			
UNESCO	50	50	1,583
Results	-	-	3,837
Wellspring (CRIN Wellspring grant)	70,581	70,581	168,161
Open Society Foundations	78,507	78,507	31,406
	<u>£149,138</u>	<u>£149,138</u>	<u>£204,987</u>

In May 2017, Child Right International Network (CRIN) and Right to Education Initiative (RTE) signed an MOU (extended in July 2020) where CRIN agreed to support RTE through three incubation phases of fiscal sponsorship, then fiscal agency, and then full independence (the "incubation period"). This incubation period came to its conclusion on 1st of July of 2021. However, following agreement between CRIN, RTE and RTE's current donors, RTE became administratively, financially and fiscally independent from CRIN on 31st of July of 2020 and CRIN released accumulated funds in full to RTE, which had been kept on a separate CRIN/RTE account.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

/cont

3. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2021	Total 2020 £
Direct Costs			
Salaries, fees and related costs	176,217	176,217	59,803
Recruitment costs	-	-	1,174
Foreign exchange losses	2,233	2,233	428
Payroll costs	507	507	305
Travel and subsistence	206	206	(1,117)
	<u>£179,163</u>	<u>£179,163</u>	<u>£60,593</u>
Support Costs			
Premises costs	-	-	2,574
Office and administration costs	507	507	166
Website, computer and IT costs	608	608	257
Governance (see note 4)	1,650	1,650	1,500
Insurance	196	196	210
Subscriptions	5,696	5,696	123
Advertising, printing & design	3,253	3,253	
	<u>£11,910</u>	<u>£11,910</u>	<u>4,830</u>
	<u>£191,073</u>	<u>£191,073</u>	<u>£65,423</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examination	<u>£1,650</u>	<u>£1,500</u>

5. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	81,173	37,873
Redundancy	-	5,808
Social security	19,052	-
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	6,609	1,919
	<u>£106,834</u>	<u>£45,600</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3 (2020: 3). The average number based on full time equivalents was 2 (2020: 2).

One employee (2020: Nil) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

/cont

5. STAFF COSTS /cont

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £65,018 (2020: £20,882). Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

6. NET INCOME

	2021	2020
Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent examination	£1,650	£1,500
Operating lease rentals	-	£2,574
	£1,650	£4,074

7. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments	740	71
Other debtors	-	825
Accrued income	-	793
	£740	£1,689

8. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	4,574	7,445
Deferred income	50,146	97,280
Other creditors	2,397	97
	£57,117	£104,822

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Additions in the year £	Released to income £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Open Society Institute	48,787	28,449	77,236	-
Wellspring (CRIN Wellspring grant)	48,493	70,795	69,142	50,146
	£97,280	£99,244	£146,378	£50,146

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

/cont

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2021	Total 2020 £
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	154,746	154,746	244,386
Current liabilities	(57,117)	(57,117)	(104,822)
As at 31 December 2021	<u>£97,629</u>	<u>£97,629</u>	<u>£139,564</u>

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2021 (2020: Nil)

11. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

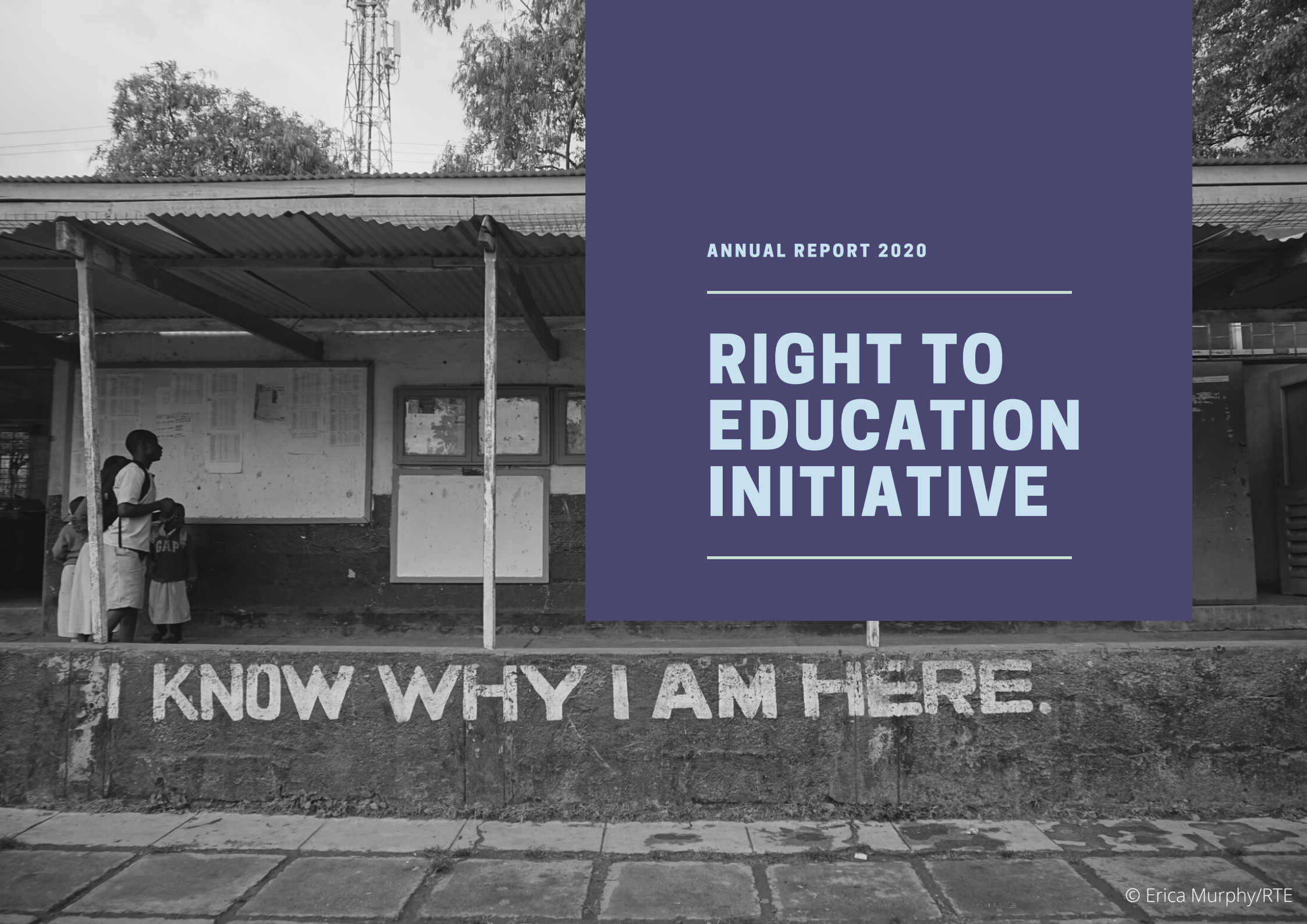
12. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1173115

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

I KNOW WHY I AM HERE.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: 2020 CONTEXT - COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

In early 2020, all aspects of life were turned on their head as the Covid-19 pandemic swept through the world. Like many other organisations, we saw rapid changes to the way in which we work - with travel, conferences, office working and face to face meetings all hastily abandoned in favour of stay-at-home digital communications. Whilst this affected our usual activities, the advent of online tools meant that in some ways we were more interconnected than ever, and global events from individual living rooms became the norm.

Yet the aftershocks of the pandemic extend far beyond changes to working practices. Covid-19 has had a seismic impact on education systems globally. Schools for more than 168 million children have been permanently closed since March 2020 - and globally, an estimated 112 billion days of education have been lost. The impact of school closures has been felt disproportionately by the most disadvantaged communities, with some of the world's poorest children entirely cut off from their education. Despite the herculean efforts of teachers, parents and caregivers, existing inequalities have been exacerbated beyond measure by the pandemic, and the fragility of entire educational systems has been revealed.

And as pharmaceutical advances signal a tentative end to the worst ravages of Covid 19 globally, the impact on education systems and on the right to education for millions of children globally has yet to be fully established.

As 2020 drew to a close at the Right to Education Initiative, it was clear to us that while the pandemic has thrown global inequalities into sharper focus, it has also reinforced the importance of the right to education and the need to address the injustices which the pandemic has intensified. We met the close of the year with renewed determination to make the right to education a reality for all, while reflecting on the achievements that were possible even in the face of such unprecedented adversity.

Before detailing the milestones of 2020, we wish to thank our donors, supporters and partners for their continued support of the right to education globally. It is through your contributions that the right to education in all of its dimensions can be made a reality.



**DELPHINE DORSI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



WHO WE ARE

The Right to Education Initiative (RTE) is an international human rights organisation focusing on the right to education. We promote education as a human right, striving for a world where everyone, without discrimination of any kind, can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

We stand for the full recognition of education as a human right, essential for the wellbeing and development of every individual, regardless of their status and circumstance over their life course. This commitment is underpinned by the principles of universality, indivisibility and interdependence. We recognise that education is key for the realisation of other rights and for building societies where respect for human rights, tolerance, inclusivity and diversity are valued.

WHAT WE DO

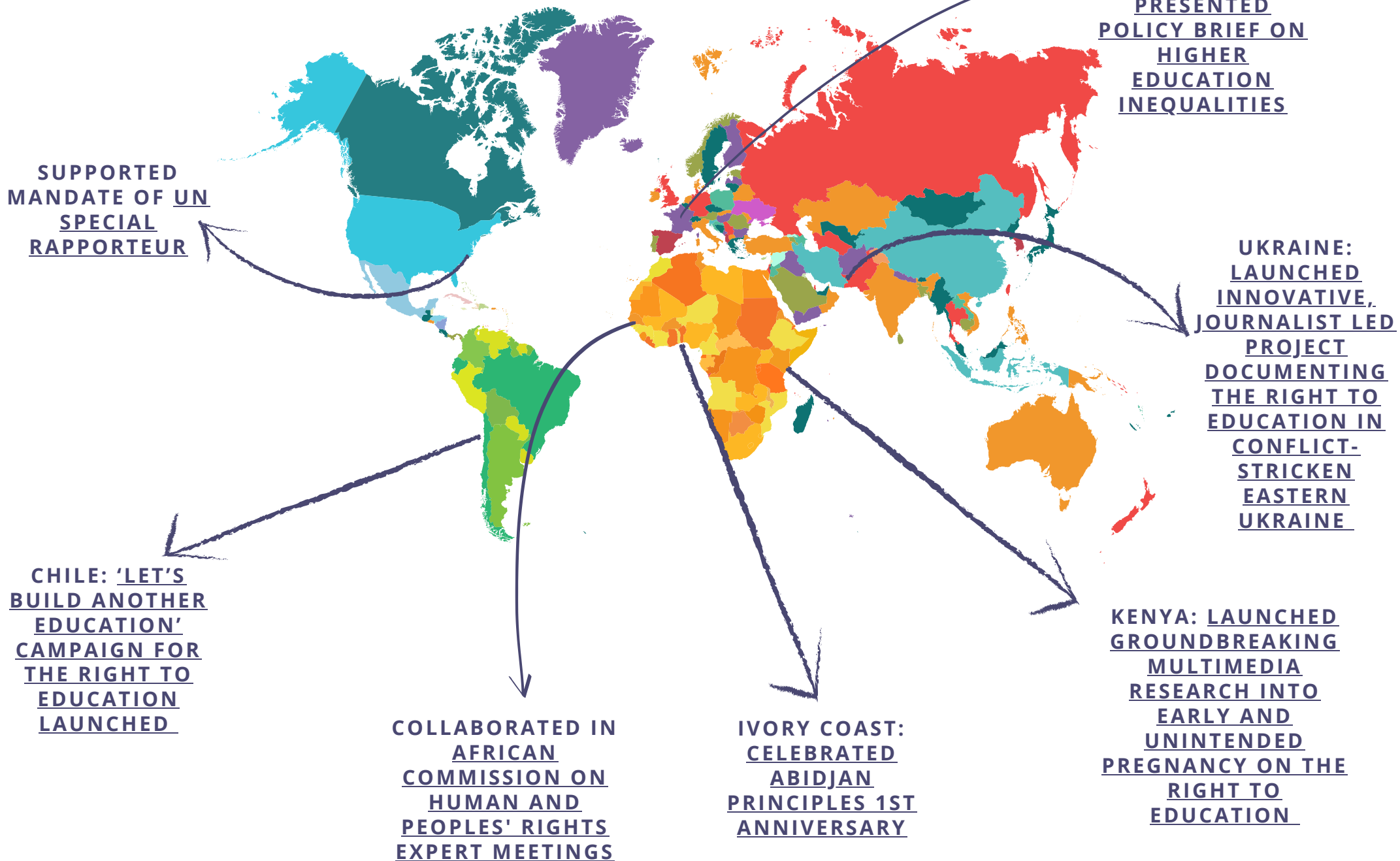
We advocate for states to both legally commit to and implement the right to education - to make it a reality for all. In so doing we also seek to ensure that governments are held accountable for meeting their human rights obligations.

RTE builds bridges between diverse fields (human rights, education and development), stakeholders, (including civil society organisations, international organisations, academics, and states) and diverse language communities (including English, French, Spanish and Arabic). We link global, national and local research and evidence based policy dialogue to campaigning and advocacy with the aim of accelerating progress towards the realization of the right to education for all through positive and concrete changes on the ground.

WHY WE EXIST

- To protect and promote the right to education globally
- Because there is continued lack of enjoyment of and violation of the right to education
- To keep education as a human right in the foreground and to reframe education issues as human rights issues
- To make human rights language accessible to right-to-education advocates and to provide tools and materials to accelerate the implementation of this right
- Because there is a need for rigorous evidence-based analysis of current education issues using human rights theory and practice to support advocacy and accountability

2020: WHERE WE WORKED



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our achievements in 2020 would not have been possible without the support of our donors and partners. With your continued support, we can achieve a world in which the right to education becomes a reality from early childhood to adulthood and throughout life, and where all human rights in and through education are realised.

LOOKING FORWARD

Our strategic areas of focus

Over the course of 2020, we developed our [2020-22 strategic plan](#) - consolidating our vision, mission and the changes we want to see occur in the coming years. It defines four key areas of focus for the two-year period, but phases activity to place an emphasis on the following three areas for 2020:

- Focus one: [Privatisation of education and the role of private actors](#) - driving state accountability for inclusive, free, quality public education
- Focus two: [Early Childhood Care and Education](#) - mobilising for the right to free, compulsory pre-primary education for all
- Focus three: [The right to education of migrants](#) - advocating for the right to education of all individuals, irrespective of nationality or legal status

Major advances were seen in the recognition of the Abidjan Principles by regional and international human rights organisations, as well as strides forward in their practical use in advocacy and rights protection efforts.

The success of the Abidjan Principles in 2020 is both testament to the strength of this reference document and the carefully conducted, inclusive and participatory process that led to its adoption, and the concerted and ongoing outreach and advocacy conducted by the secretariat, drafting committee and advisors.

THE ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES IN NUMBERS: 2020

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

- RTE HELD AND PARTICIPATED IN **12** DIVERSE EVENTS TO PROMOTE AND EXPLAIN THE ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES
- CO-EDITED **ONE** BOOK
- CO DRAFTED **TWO** PAPERS
- TOOK PART IN **TWO** JOINT SUBMISSIONS TO UN TREATY BODIES
- ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES APPEARED IN **SEVEN** MEDIA OUTLETS

IMPACT

OVERALL, THE ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES HAVE SECURED RECOGNITION BY **10** REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS

THE ABIDJAN PRINCIPLES HAVE BEEN USED IN NATIONAL CONTEXTS TO PROMOTE RIGHTS

In line with our overarching strategy, we commenced an ambitious programme of work on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in 2020. We began working on the [Global Partnership Strategy for Early Childhood Care and Education](#), and in July took part in a [UNESCO webinar on ECCE](#) in the context of Covid-19.

In addition, we participated in technical sessions, collaborated on the drafting of the strategy and are currently working closely with the UNESCO Right to Education Programme on its normative dimensions.



JEREMY BISHOP, UNSPLASH



© ERICA MURPHY / RTE

We also made ECCE a greater focus on our own channels, and in November 2020 published a [new issue page](#) on ECCE from a human rights perspective in both French and English.

Finally, in December in 2020 we successfully recruited an experienced ECCE Programme Manager to expand our strategic goals, reach and impact in this area.

Our continued work on the right to education of migrants in 2020 culminated in the publication of a revised website page on migrants and refugees in both [French](#) and [English](#).

This updated content features a range of graphics and visuals in addition to new materials and information.



© SOLIDARITÉ LAÏQUE

A GLOBAL OVERVIEW



79.5 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS



45.7 Million Internal Displaced Persons (IDP)

4.2 Million Asylum Seekers

26 Million Refugees

3.6 Million Venezuelians abroad

TOP INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT COUNTRIES (conflict and violence)

1. Syrian Arab Republic
2. Colombia
3. Democratic Republic of the Congo
4. Yemen
5. Afghanistan

**Did you know ?
73% of refugees are hosted in neighbouring countries**

TOP REFUGEE HOSTING COUNTRIES

1. Turkey
2. Colombia
3. Pakistan
4. Uganda
5. Germany

EDUCATION AND MIGRATION

MORE THAN 30 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS ARE SCHOOL-AGED



There is a lack of data on school enrolment for forcibly displaced persons.

States should implement more data collection, especially for IDP's and undocumented migrants.

We also expanded our research, materials and future framework for work on the right to education of unaccompanied migrants aged over 16, with a literature review, global overview and collaboration with French organisation [Solidarité Laïque](#) on advocacy for unaccompanied minors and their access to education.

Additionally, we published addition to two blogs on [unaccompanied minors and the right to education in France](#), and [administrative barriers to educational completion for migrants](#).

Vital to the protection of rights is monitoring work. We work in partnership across a range of issue areas to monitor the implementation of the right to education, collaborating with diverse actors to ensure accountability and the realisation of fundamental rights.

UNINTENDED EXCLUSION: MONITORING THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION OF PREGNANT GIRLS IN KENYA

In Kenya, thousands of girls are forced out of school after experiencing sexual violence leading to early and unintended pregnancy. The impact of pregnancy on the right to education in Kenya has been a focus for RTE since 2019, when we partnered with Kenyan human rights organisation [Hakijamii](#).

In March 2020, we published the [multimedia essay 'I really want to go to school'](#), which presents our findings and interviews in textual and visual form, using the right to education monitoring guide as a basis.



It identifies systemic failings in the Kenyan education system, uncovers the barriers to returning to school—including stigmatisation, school fees, and lack of childcare—and recommends actions to ensure girls' human rights are respected.

MONITORING TERRITORIAL INEQUALITIES IN FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION

Place of origin has a significant impact on the right to education in France, and has been the focus of a collaborative investigation and advocacy project with Sciences Po Law School Human Rights Clinic since 2019.

In 2020, we supported students to draft a policy brief on place of origin, access and participation in university education, based on research conducted in the first stage of the project and using our right to education monitoring guide as a framework.

In March, the students presented the brief to a colloquium on Equal Opportunities or Equal Achievement in Higher Education in Montpellier, France.

We facilitated the distribution and advocacy outreach surrounding the updated version of the report and its accompanying policy brief, in addition to supporting the development of articles on territorial inequalities and higher education.



WORKING WITH ESCR-NET TO MONITOR THE USE OF DATA

RTE is a steering committee member of the ESCR-Net monitoring working group. ESCR-Net is an international network connecting over 280 NGOs, social movements and advocates across more than 75 countries to build a global movement to make human rights and social justice a reality for all. Our primary activity with ESCR-net has been to co-direct the development of a collective position on human rights data, intended to challenge existing narratives and state practice regarding official data - which often falls short when it comes to the realisation of economic and social rights.

In 2020, we consolidated the final draft of the collective position on data principles and presented it in a workshop at RightsCon. In addition, the collective position was used as the basis for an amicus curiae submitted to the Supreme Court of Mexico on the lack of data collection in informal settlements, which helped secure a unanimous ruling from the First Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation in Mexico that the statistics bureau, INEGI, include informal settlements in the official census.

Finally, RTE contributed to ESCR-Net's guide on parallel reporting to advance women's economic and social rights, which itself was based on the Right to education handbook published in January 2019.

EDUCATION UNDER ATTACK: MONITORING THE IMPACT OF CONFLICT ON EDUCATION IN UKRAINE

Children in eastern Ukraine are missing out on their education. For more than six years conflict has raged in the region; at the time of writing 13,000 are dead and a staggering 670,000 children don't have access to safe education.

To shine a light on this persistent and protracted humanitarian and human rights crisis, in 2018 RTE began a pilot project in collaboration with journalists and Ukrainian partners to monitor the impact of the armed conflict on education.

In July 2020, we created the multimedia essay and accompanying [legal factsheet 'Caught in the crossfire: The right to education in eastern Ukraine'](#) - combining the journalists' evidence with a human rights analysis.



© DIEGO IBARRA SÁNCHEZ / RTE

© DIEGO IBARRA SANCHEZ / RTE

This essay attracted attention on multiple platforms, and led to an Open Society Foundations Instagram takeover invitation for multimedia essay photographer and RTE collaborator Diego Ibarra Sanchez, serving to showcase the photographs and highlight our approach to using audiovisual information in human rights monitoring projects.

In addition, the findings of the project were used by Save the Children Ukraine in a joint submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and have strengthened our own ongoing advocacy - prompting us to extend our work in this area. We are currently working on a thematic monitoring guide and series of materials for journalists for publication in 2021.



Core to our mission is the provision of authoritative, accessible and independent sources of information on the right to education. Our website is our backbone; published in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic, it provides an online library of resources, materials and tools to empower frontline actors, civil society, social movements and states to apply the right to education in multiple contexts.

In addition, our social networks, e-bulletin, research, webinars, and participation in events are crucial channels via which we raise awareness of the various dimensions of the right to education, stimulate debates, and highlight emerging and neglected issues.

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKS

In 2020 we invested in translations of website content to strengthen our commitment to build bridges between different language communities. Our social channels continued to grow in followers and see an increase in engagement, and our mailing lists expanded.



5656 Followers
2.5% increase on 2019



34 news items in English
14 in French
8 in Spanish



7 blogs in English
3 in French
1 in Spanish



286,162 web users
482,826 page views



11 e-bulletins sent to **695** subscribers, a **3%** increase on 2019



537 followers
176 new followers



558 new followers
14% increase on 2019



35% increase in Spanish speaking users

PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

- Co-hosted and participated in **17** events, workshops, conferences and webinars
- Wrote and contributed to **five** articles and papers
- Co-edited **one** book
- Presented in **French, English and Portuguese**

We constantly engage and work in partnership with a diverse range of actors - including academics, researchers, NGOs, the UN community, African Commission and others - to build bridges and collaborate on common goals.

Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium

RTE is an active member of the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC). The Consortium is an informal network of national, regional and global organisations and individuals who collaborate to analyse and respond to the challenges posed by the rapid growth of private actors in education from a human rights perspective and propose alternatives.

RTE is part of the facilitation group that supervises the coordinator and takes care of the administrative dimension of the Consortium. We also lead the working group on the Abidjan Principles, in addition to consulting on and reviewing reports. In 2020, we played an active role in the expansion of the network.

Francophone network against the commercialisation of education

Throughout 2020, RTE played an active role in the Francophone Network against the commercialisation of education. This informal network, which encompasses 303 member organisations from 37 countries, aims to ensure a collective mobilisation of the education actors in order to coordinate our responses to the commercialisation of education phenomena in Francophone countries and to propose alternative solutions.

In 2020, we participated in regular network meetings, in addition to conducting ongoing advocacy and research activities in conjunction with the Francophone Network Coordinator, whose position we contributed to the financing of and whose work we supervise. In addition, RTE played a crucial role in supporting the development of a Network of Francophone researchers working on the issue of privatisation in education. Led by University of Geneva researcher Thibaut Lauwerier, the Francophone Network comprises 29 researchers from 13 countries.

Network highlights

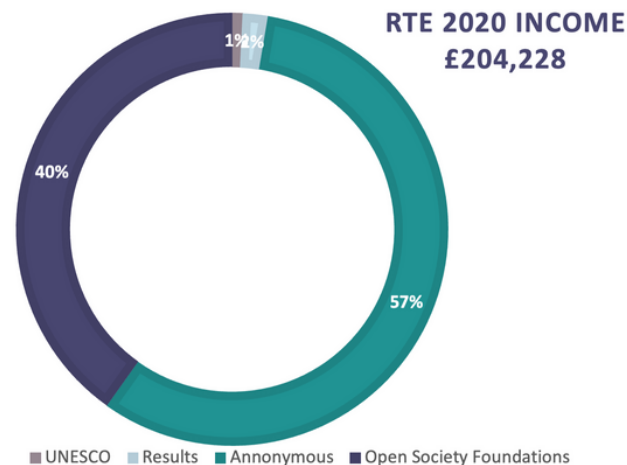
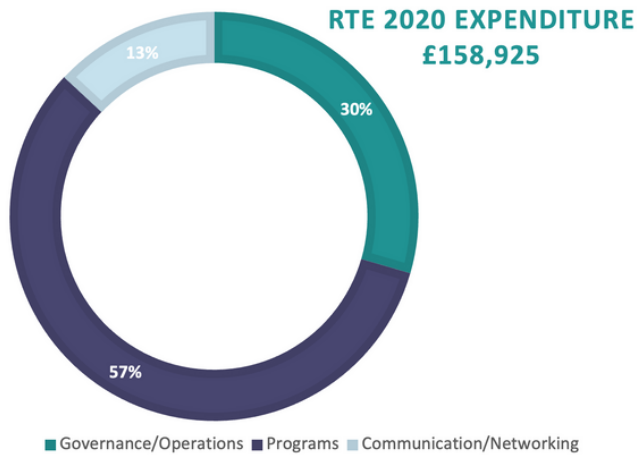
- 3** online meetings with the Network's members
- 6** newsletters produced
- 60** articles and reports shared on the [Network's website](#)
- 2** articles published

International Network of Education in Emergencies (INEE)

RTE is a member of the INEE Advocacy working group. Throughout 2020, we worked in conjunction with partners on the launch of an advocacy brief on non-state actors' involvement in education in emergencies, with reference to the Abidjan Principles. This brief will launch in early 2021.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our donors, who enable the right to education to become a reality.



WITH THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR IN KIND SUPPORT



OUR TEAM

Executive board

The executive board is RTE's governing body. It is presently composed of eight trustees representing a diverse range of actors from the human rights, development and education fields:

- David Archer, Head of Civic Participation, Tax Justice and Public Services at ActionAid
- Iain Byrne, Researcher/Advisor - Economic and Social Justice Team, Global Issues Programme Special Advisor, and Strategic Litigation at Amnesty International
- Partnerships at Habitat for Humanity International
- Ayan Hassan, Programme Finance Manager at War Child UK
- Elin Martinez, Senior Researcher in the Children's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch
- Anjela Taneja, Lead Campaigner Inequality / Lead Specialist Essential Services at Oxfam India

Trustees appointed in 2020

- Nikki Skipper, Head of Fundraising at The Queen's Commonwealth Trust
- Dina Hashem, Associate Director for Global
- Bharti Patel, International Child Rights Advocate

Staff

- Delphine Dorsi - Director
- Natalia Dzvelaia - Finance and administrative officer
- Erica Murphy - Project Officer

New additions to the team at the close of 2020

- Eleanor Rosenbach - Communications Manager
- Rajakumari Michaelsamy - Programme Manager, ECCE
- Hoda Awwad - Programme Officer, Private Actors in Education

With special thanks to the consultants and contributors who have supported our work

- Juliana Lima
- Susie Talbot
- Clara Beauvoir
- Laure Fletcher
- Kanto Calange



For more information about our work, see our website

www.right-to-education.org

Follow us on:



RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer (Chair)
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez
I. Byrne
A. Taneja
D. Hashem (appointed 3 September 2020)
N. Skipper (appointed 3 September 2020)
B. Patel (appointed 3 September 2020)

Principal Office:

33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith
Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

The Right to Education Initiative (RTE) is an international human rights organisation focusing on the right to education. We promote education as a human right, striving for a world where everyone, without discrimination of any kind, can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions.

What we stand for

The objective of RTE is to promote any charitable purposes to recognition of education as a human right, essential for the wellbeing and development of every individual, regardless of their status and circumstance over their life course. This commitment is underpinned by the principles of universality, indivisibility and interdependence. We recognise that education is key for the realisation of other rights and for building societies where respect for human rights, tolerance, inclusivity and diversity are valued.

What we do

We advocate for states to both legally commit to and implement the right to education - to make it a reality for all. In so doing we also seek to ensure that governments are held accountable for meeting their human rights obligations.

RTE builds bridges between diverse fields (human rights, education and development), stakeholders, (including civil society organisations, international organisations, academics, and states) and diverse language communities (including English, French, Spanish and Arabic). We link global, national and local research and evidence-based policy dialogue to campaigning and advocacy with the aim of accelerating progress towards the realization of the right to education for all through positive and concrete changes on the ground.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in considering the activities of, and future plans for, the charity.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Over the course of 2020, we developed a strategic plan which consolidates our vision, mission and the changes we want to see in the coming years. It defines four key areas of focus for the two-year period, but phases activity to place an emphasis on the following three areas of focus for 2020:

- Privatisation of education and the role of private actors - driving state accountability for inclusive free, quality public education using the Abidjan Principles
- Early Childhood Care and Education - mobilising for the right to free, compulsory pre-primary education for all
- The right to education of migrants - advocating for the right to education of all individuals, irrespective of nationality or legal status

Additionally, our work is supported by cross cutting activities on monitoring and accountability.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Strategic focus one: Driving state accountability for inclusive free, quality public education using the Abidjan Principles

The promotion and implementation of the Abidjan Principles, a reference text on the right to education adopted in 2019 by a group of international experts following a three-year participatory consultation period, continues to be a primary feature of our work.

RTE sits on the Secretariat of the Abidjan Principles, and is instrumental in disseminating information, providing guidance and assisting civil society alongside national and international entities in their implementation.

In 2020, we celebrated the first anniversary of the Principles; began editing a book interrogating the most important topics and contentious debates from the adoption processes in both the legal and education spheres; commenced an innovative collaboration with UNESCO-IIEP and the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to develop a methodological framework to review national education strategic plans and ensure they reflect States' international commitments for the implementation of the right to education; organised and participated in numerous conferences, webinars, trainings and events; and drafted books, articles, joint submissions and papers in collaboration with a range of partners.

Major advances were seen in the recognition of the Abidjan Principles by regional and international human rights organisations, as well as strides forward in their practical use in advocacy and rights protection efforts. The success of the Abidjan Principles in 2020 is both testament to the strength of this reference document and the carefully conducted, inclusive and participatory process that led to its adoption, and the concerted and ongoing outreach and advocacy conducted by the secretariat, drafting committee and advisors.

The Abidjan Principles in numbers: 2020

Outreach and engagement

- RTE held and participated in 12 diverse events to promote and explain the Abidjan Principles
- Co-edited one book
- Co drafted two papers
- Took part in two joint submissions to UN treaty bodies
- Abidjan Principles appeared in seven media outlets

Impact

- Overall, the Abidjan Principles have secured recognition by 10 regional and international human rights bodies and organisations
- The Abidjan Principles have been used in national contexts to promote rights

Strategic focus two: Mobilising for the right to free, pre-primary education for all

In line with our overarching strategy, we commenced an ambitious programme of work on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in 2020. We began working on the Global Partnership Strategy for Early Childhood, and in July took part in a UNESCO webinar on ECCE in the context of Covid-19. In addition, we participated in technical sessions, collaborated on the drafting of the strategy and are currently working closely with the UNESCO Right to Education Programme on its normative dimensions.

We also made ECCE a greater focus on our own channels, and in November 2020 published a new issue page on ECCE from a human rights perspective in both French and English. Finally, in December in 2020 we successfully recruited an experienced ECCE Programme Manager to expand our strategic goals, reach and impact in this area.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Strategic focus three: advocating for the right to education of migrants

Our continued work on the right to education of migrants in 2020 culminated in the publication of a revised website page on migrants and refugees in both [French](#) and [English](#). This updated content features a range of graphics and visuals in addition to new materials and information.

We also expanded our research, materials and future framework for work on the right to education of unaccompanied migrants aged over 16, with a literature review, global overview and collaboration with French organisation Solidarité Laïque on advocacy for unaccompanied minors and their access to education, in addition to two blogs on [unaccompanied minors and the right to education in France](#), and [administrative barriers to educational completion for migrants](#).

Finally, our ongoing work as an expert contributor with the *Global Education Monitoring Report* (GEM Report) was highlighted in [A4ID's September newsletter](#), with particular reference to our paper analysing the status of the right to education of migrants and highlighting the legal and practical barriers to education that migrants face at the national level.

Monitoring the right to education

Vital to the protection of rights is monitoring work. We work in partnership across a range of issue areas to monitor the implementation of the right to education, collaborating with diverse actors to ensure accountability and the realisation of fundamental rights.

- **Unintended exclusion: monitoring the right to education of pregnant girls in Kenya**

In Kenya, thousands of girls are forced out of school after experiencing sexual violence leading to early and unintended pregnancy. The impact of pregnancy on the right to education in Kenya has been a focus for RTE since 2019, when we partnered with Kenyan human rights organisation [Hakijamii](#).

In March 2020, we published the [multimedia essay 'I really want to go to school'](#), which presents our findings and interviews in textual and visual form, using the right to education monitoring guide as a basis. It identifies systemic failings in the Kenyan education system, uncovers the barriers to returning to school—including stigmatisation, school fees, and lack of childcare—and recommends actions to ensure girls' human rights are respected.

Monitoring territorial inequalities in higher education in France

Place of origin has a significant impact on the right to education in France, and has been the focus of a collaborative investigation and advocacy project with [Sciences Po Law School Human Rights Clinic](#) since 2019.

In 2020, we supported students to draft a [policy brief](#) on place of origin, access and participation in university education, based on [research conducted in the first stage of the project](#) and using our right to education monitoring guide as a framework.

In March, the students presented the brief to a [colloquium on Equal Opportunities or Equal Achievement in Higher Education](#) in Montpellier, France. We facilitated the distribution and advocacy outreach surrounding the [updated](#) version of the report and its accompanying [policy brief](#), in addition to supporting the development of articles on [territorial inequalities](#) and [higher education](#).

- **Education under attack: monitoring the impact of conflict on education in Ukraine**

Children in eastern Ukraine are missing out on their education. For six years conflict has raged in the region; 13,000 are dead and a staggering 670,000 children don't have access to safe education as a result. To shine a light on this persistent and protracted humanitarian and human rights crisis, in 2018 RTE began a pilot project in collaboration with Ukrainian partners to monitor the impact of the armed conflict on education.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In July 2020, we created the multimedia essay and accompanying [legal factsheet 'Caught in the crossfire: The right to education in eastern Ukraine'](#) - combining the journalists' evidence and with a human rights analysis.

This essay attracted attention on multiple platforms, and led to an Open Society Foundations Instagram takeover invitation for multimedia essay photographer and RTE collaborator Diego Ibarra Sanchez, serving to showcase the photographs and highlight our approach to using audiovisual information in human rights monitoring projects.

In addition, the findings of the project were used by Save the Children Ukraine in a joint submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and have strengthened our own ongoing advocacy - prompting us to extend our work in this area. We are currently working on a thematic monitoring guide and series of materials for journalists for publication in 2021.

- Working with ESCR-Net to monitor the use of data

RTE is a steering committee member of the ESCR-Net monitoring working group. ESCR-Net is an international network connecting over 280 NGOs, social movements and advocates across more than 75 countries to build a global movement to make human rights and social justice a reality for all. Our primary activity with ESCR-net has been to co-direct the development of a [collective position on human rights data](#), intended to challenge existing narratives and state practice regarding official data - which often falls short when it comes to the realisation of economic and social rights.

In 2020, we consolidated the final draft of the [collective position on data principles](#) and presented it in a workshop at RightsCon. In addition, the collective position was used as the basis for an [amicus curiae submitted to the Supreme Court of Mexico](#) on the lack of data collection in informal settlements, which helped secure a unanimous ruling from the First Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation in Mexico that the statistics bureau, INEGI, include informal settlements in the official census. Finally, RTE contributed to ESCR-Net's guide on [parallel reporting to advance women's economic and social rights](#), which itself was based on the Right to education handbook published in January 2019.

Sharing knowledge to make the right to education accessible

Core to our mission is the provision of authoritative, accessible and independent sources of information on the right to education. Our [website](#) is our backbone; published in four languages, it provides an online library of resources, materials and tools to empower frontline actors, civil society, social movements and states to apply the right to education in multiple contexts.

In addition, our social networks, e-bulletin, research, webinars, and participation in events are crucial channels via which we raise awareness of the various dimensions of the right to education, stimulate debates, and highlight emerging and neglected issues.

Publications and events

We make the right to education accessible in diverse forums, including through leadership and events.

IN 2020, RTE:

- Co-hosted and participated in 17 events, workshops, conferences and webinars Wrote and contributed to five articles and papers
- Co-edited one book
- Presented in French, English and Portuguese

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Website, social media and networks

In 2020, we invested in translations of website content to strengthen our commitment to build bridges between different language communities. Our social channels continued to grow in followers and increase in engagement, and our mailing lists expanded.

Partnerships and consortiums

We constantly engage and work in partnership with a diverse range of actors - including academics, researchers, NGOs, the UN community, African Commission and others - to build bridges and collaborate on common goals.

Below are some examples of our collaborative approach and outreach in 2020.

- **Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium**

RTE is an active member of the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC). The Consortium is an informal network of national, regional and global organisations and individuals who collaborate to analyse and respond to the challenges posed by the rapid growth of private actors in education from a human rights perspective and propose alternatives.

RTE is part of the facilitation group that supervises the coordinator and takes care of the administrative dimension of the Consortium. We also lead the working group on the Abidjan Principles, in addition to consulting on and reviewing reports. In 2020, we played an active role in the expansion of the network.

- **Francophone network against the commercialisation of education**

Throughout 2020, RTE played an active role in the [Francophone Network against the commercialisation of education](#). This informal network, which encompasses 303 member organisations from 37 countries, aims to ensure a collective mobilisation of the education actors in order to coordinate our responses to the commercialisation of education phenomena in Francophone countries and to propose alternative solutions.

In 2020, we participated in regular network meetings, in addition to conducting ongoing advocacy and research activities in conjunction with the Francophone Network Coordinator, whose position we contributed to the financing of and whose work we supervise.

Network highlights:

- 3 online meetings with the Network's members
- 6 newsletters were produced
- 60 articles and reports were shared on the Network's website nevendezpasleducation.org
- 2 articles were published

In addition, RTE played a crucial role in supporting the development of a [Network of Francophone researchers working on the issue of privatisation in education](#). Led by University of Geneva researcher Thibaut Lauwerier, the Francophone Network comprises 29 researchers from 13 countries.

- **International Network of Education in Emergencies (INEE)**

RTE is a member of the [INEE Advocacy working group](#). Throughout 2020, we worked in conjunction with partners on the launch of an advocacy brief on non-state actors' involvement in education in emergencies, with reference to the Abidjan Principles. This brief will launch in early 2021.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2020

Total Income for the year amounted to £204,987. Our main funder for the year since separating from CRIN was Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Wellspring (under CRIN incubation period), we have also received funding from UNESCO and Results.

Total Expenditure amounted to £65,423 since separating from CRIN and was fully spent on charitable activities.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2020 amounted to £242,697, £97,280 of this balance represents funding received in advance towards the next financial year and which has been treated as deferred income.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2021 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which is discussed and updated on each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

A fundraising strategy has been developed to accompany RTE strategy for 2020-2022. This has a priority for diversifying our funding base and seeking a balance between core funding for a core team and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

COVID-19

Like many other organisations, we saw rapid changes to the way in which we work - with travel, conferences, office working and face to face meetings all hastily abandoned in favour of stay-at-home digital communications. Whilst this affected our usual activities, the advent of online tools meant that in some ways we were more interconnected than ever, and global events from individual living rooms became the norm. Our travel budget was significantly reduced and re-allocated to other budget lines.

Yet the aftershocks of the pandemic extend far beyond changes to working practices. Covid-19 has had a seismic impact on education systems globally. Schools for more than 168 million children have been permanently closed since March 2020 - and globally, an estimated 112 billion days of education have been lost. The impact of school closures has been felt disproportionately by the most disadvantaged communities, with some of the world's poorest children entirely cut off from their education. Despite the herculean efforts of teachers, parents and caregivers, existing inequalities have been exacerbated beyond measure by the pandemic, and the fragility of entire educational systems

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

has been revealed. And as pharmaceutical advances signal a tentative end to the worst ravages of Covid-19 globally, the impact on education systems and on the right to education for millions of children globally has yet to be fully established.

As 2020 drew to a close at the Right to Education Initiative, it was clear to us that while the pandemic has thrown global inequalities into sharper focus, it has also reinforced the importance of the right to education and the need to address the injustices the pandemic has intensified. We met the close of the year with renewed determination to make the right to education a reality for all, while reflecting on the achievements that were possible even in the face of such unprecedented adversity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

RTE appointed 3 new trustees in 2020 and followed below processes for recruitment:

- (1) Identifies the need for the new trustee.
- (2) The trustees agree what skills, experience and knowledge are needed, and write it down in the form of a short job description and person specification.
- (3) The trustees agree responsibilities and a process for recruitment; in doing this, they take care to comply with any specific requirements set out in the RTE's governing document.
- (4) The trustees consider the best methods of attracting a diverse range of candidates with the skills the charity needs.
- (5) Short-listing and interviews take place against agreed criteria. Interviews are carried out by a small panel of trustees, and each candidate is asked similar questions to ensure a fair and objective approach. Notes are kept of each interview.
- (6) Preferred candidates are identified and invited to join the trustees, subject to references, formal vetting and approval by the full trustee board. Unsuccessful candidates are notified and thanked for their interest.

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 8 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 8 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees a all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

In December 2020, we recruited three new staff members to support the implementation of RTE's strategy 2020-2022:

- a programme manager on early childhood care and education, Rajakumari Michaelsamy,
- a part-time programme officer to support the work on the right to public education and non-states actors involvement in education, Hoda Awwad
- a part-time communication manager, Eleanor Rosenbach

They all started on 1st February 2021.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23rd September 2021 and signed on its behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Archer', with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

**David Archer (Chair)
Trustee**

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 11 to 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
SM1 4BW

24 September 2021

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:			
Charitable activities	2	204,987	204,987
		<u>204,987</u>	<u>204,987</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable Activities	3	65,423	65,423
		<u>65,423</u>	<u>65,423</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	6	135,964	135,964
Net movement in funds			
Reconciliation of funds			
Balance brought forward		-	-
Balance carried forward		<u>£135,964</u>	<u>£135,964</u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	£	2020	£
Current Assets				
Debtors	7	1,689		
Cash at bank and in hand		242,697		
		<u>244,386</u>		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	104,822		
		<u>104,822</u>		
NET ASSETS	9			<u>£139,564</u>
Represented by:				
FUNDS				
Unrestricted	9			139,564
				<u>£139,564</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 23rd Sept 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair
David Archer

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants and Contracts		
UNESCO	1,583	1,583
Results	3,837	3,837
CRIN (transfer of Wellspring grants)	168,161	168,161
Open Society Foundations	31,406	31,406
	<u>£204,987</u>	<u>£204,987</u>

In May 2017, Child Right International Network (CRIN) and Right to Education Initiative (RTE) signed an MOU (extended in July 2020) where CRIN agreed to support RTE through three incubation phases of fiscal sponsorship, then fiscal agency, and then full independence (the "incubation period"). This incubation period came to its conclusion on 1st of July of 2021. However, following agreement between CRIN, RTE and RTE's current donors, RTE became administratively, financially and fiscally independent from CRIN on 31st of July of 2020 and CRIN released accumulated funds in full to RTE, which had been kept on a separate CRIN/RTE account.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

3. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Direct Costs		
Salaries, fees and related costs	59,803	59,803
Recruitment costs	1,174	1,174
Foreign exchange losses	428	428
Payroll costs	305	305
Travel and subsistence	(1,117)	(1,117)
	<u>£60,593</u>	<u>£60,593</u>
Support Costs		
Premises costs	2,574	2,574
Office and administration costs	166	166
Website, computer and IT costs	257	257
Governance (see note 4)	1,500	1,500
Insurance	210	210
Subscriptions	123	123
	<u>4,830</u>	<u>4,830</u>
	<u>£65,423</u>	<u>£65,423</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2020 £
Independent examination	£1,500
	<u>£1,500</u>

5. STAFF COSTS

	2020 £
Wages and salaries	37,873
Redundancy	5,808
Social security	-
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	1,919
	<u>£45,600</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3. The average number based on full time equivalents was 2.

No employees received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £20,882. Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

6. NET INCOME

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):	2020
Independent examination	£1,500
Operating lease rentals	£2,574
	£4,074

7. DEBTORS

	2020 £
Prepayments	71
Other debtors	825
Accrued income	793
	£1,689

8. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £
Accruals	7,445
Deferred income	97,280
Other creditors	97
	£104,822

	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Additions in the year £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Analysis of deferred income			
Open Society Institute	-	48,787	48,787
CRIN (transfer of Wellspring grant)	-	48,493	48,493
	£Nil	£97,280	£97,280

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	-	-
Current assets	244,386	244,386
Current liabilities	(104,822)	(104,822)
As at 31 December 2020	£139,564	£139,564

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2020.

11. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Registered Charity No. 1173115

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

MYRUS SMITH
Chartered Accountants

Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Registered Charity No: 1173115

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Board of Trustees:

D. Archer (Chair)
A. Hassan (Treasurer)
E. Martinez
I. Byrne
A. Taneja
D. Hashem (appointed 3 September 2020)
N. Skipper (appointed 3 September 2020)
B. Patel (appointed 3 September 2020)

Principal Office:

33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

K.C. Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith
Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burnell Road
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 4BW

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

(Inc Public Benefit disclosure)

Who we are

The Right to Education Initiative (RTE) is an international human rights organisation focusing on the right to education. We promote education as a human right, striving for a world where everyone, without discrimination of any kind, can fully enjoy the right to education in all its dimensions.

What we stand for

The objective of RTE is to promote any charitable purposes to recognition of education as a human right, essential for the wellbeing and development of every individual, regardless of their status and circumstance over their life course. This commitment is underpinned by the principles of universality, indivisibility and interdependence. We recognise that education is key for the realisation of other rights and for building societies where respect for human rights, tolerance, inclusivity and diversity are valued.

What we do

We advocate for states to both legally commit to and implement the right to education - to make it a reality for all. In so doing we also seek to ensure that governments are held accountable for meeting their human rights obligations.

RTE builds bridges between diverse fields (human rights, education and development), stakeholders, (including civil society organisations, international organisations, academics, and states) and diverse language communities (including English, French, Spanish and Arabic). We link global, national and local research and evidence-based policy dialogue to campaigning and advocacy with the aim of accelerating progress towards the realization of the right to education for all through positive and concrete changes on the ground.

As set in our constitution, our object is to promote the right to education, as defined by international human rights law, by:

- Sharing information, tools and resources on the right to education;
- Researching into right to education issues;
- Monitor abuses of the right to education;
- Raise awareness on right to education issues;
- Providing technical advice to partner civil society organisations on right to education issues;
- International advocacy of the right to education; and
- Promoting respect for the right to education among individuals and corporation

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in considering the activities of, and future plans for, the charity.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Over the course of 2020, we developed a strategic plan which consolidates our vision, mission and the changes we want to see in the coming years. It defines four key areas of focus for the two-year period, but phases activity to place an emphasis on the following three areas of focus for 2020:

- Privatisation of education and the role of private actors - driving state accountability for inclusive free, quality public education using the Abidjan Principles
- Early Childhood Care and Education - mobilising for the right to free, compulsory pre-primary education for all
- The right to education of migrants - advocating for the right to education of all individuals, irrespective of nationality or legal status

Additionally, our work is supported by cross cutting activities on monitoring and accountability.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Strategic focus one: Driving state accountability for inclusive free, quality public education using the Abidjan Principles

The promotion and implementation of the Abidjan Principles, a reference text on the right to education adopted in 2019 by a group of international experts following a three-year participatory consultation period, continues to be a primary feature of our work.

RTE sits on the Secretariat of the Abidjan Principles, and is instrumental in disseminating information, providing guidance and assisting civil society alongside national and international entities in their implementation.

In 2020, we celebrated the first anniversary of the Principles; began editing a book interrogating the most important topics and contentious debates from the adoption processes in both the legal and education spheres; commenced an innovative collaboration with UNESCO-IIEP and the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to develop a methodological framework to review national education strategic plans and ensure they reflect States' international commitments for the implementation of the right to education; organised and participated in numerous conferences, webinars, trainings and events; and drafted books, articles, joint submissions and papers in collaboration with a range of partners.

Major advances were seen in the recognition of the Abidjan Principles by regional and international human rights organisations, as well as strides forward in their practical use in advocacy and rights protection efforts. The success of the Abidjan Principles in 2020 is both testament to the strength of this reference document and the carefully conducted, inclusive and participatory process that led to its adoption, and the concerted and ongoing outreach and advocacy conducted by the secretariat, drafting committee and advisors.

The Abidjan Principles in numbers: 2020

Outreach and engagement

- RTE held and participated in 12 diverse events to promote and explain the Abidjan Principles
- Co-edited one book
- Co drafted two papers
- Took part in two joint submissions to UN treaty bodies
- Abidjan Principles appeared in seven media outlets

Impact

- Overall, the Abidjan Principles have secured recognition by 10 regional and international human rights bodies and organisations
- The Abidjan Principles have been used in national contexts to promote rights

Strategic focus two: Mobilising for the right to free, pre-primary education for all

In line with our overarching strategy, we commenced an ambitious programme of work on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in 2020. We began working on the [Global Partnership Strategy for Early Childhood](#), and in July took part in a [UNESCO webinar](#) on ECCE in the context of Covid-19. In addition, we participated in technical sessions, collaborated on the drafting of the strategy and are currently working closely with the UNESCO Right to Education Programme on its normative dimensions.

We also made ECCE a greater focus on our own channels, and in November 2020 published a [new issue page](#) on ECCE from a human rights perspective in both French and English. Finally, in December in 2020 we successfully recruited an experienced ECCE Programme Manager to expand our strategic goals, reach and impact in this area.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Strategic focus three: advocating for the right to education of migrants

Our continued work on the right to education of migrants in 2020 culminated in the publication of a revised website page on migrants and refugees in both [French](#) and [English](#). This updated content features a range of graphics and visuals in addition to new materials and information.

We also expanded our research, materials and future framework for work on the right to education of unaccompanied migrants aged over 16, with a literature review, global overview and collaboration with French organisation Solidarité Laïque on advocacy for unaccompanied minors and their access to education, in addition to two blogs on [unaccompanied minors and the right to education in France](#), and [administrative barriers to educational completion for migrants](#).

Finally, our ongoing work as an expert contributor with the *Global Education Monitoring Report* (GEM Report) was highlighted in [A4ID's September newsletter](#), with particular reference to our paper analysing the status of the right to education of migrants and highlighting the legal and practical barriers to education that migrants face at the national level.

Monitoring the right to education

Vital to the protection of rights is monitoring work. We work in partnership across a range of issue areas to monitor the implementation of the right to education, collaborating with diverse actors to ensure accountability and the realisation of fundamental rights.

- **Unintended exclusion: monitoring the right to education of pregnant girls in Kenya**

In Kenya, thousands of girls are forced out of school after experiencing sexual violence leading to early and unintended pregnancy. The impact of pregnancy on the right to education in Kenya has been a focus for RTE since 2019, when we partnered with Kenyan human rights organisation [Hakijamii](#).

In March 2020, we published the [multimedia essay 'I really want to go to school'](#), which presents our findings and interviews in textual and visual form, using the right to education monitoring guide as a basis. It identifies systemic failings in the Kenyan education system, uncovers the barriers to returning to school—including stigmatisation, school fees, and lack of childcare—and recommends actions to ensure girls' human rights are respected.

Monitoring territorial inequalities in higher education in France

Place of origin has a significant impact on the right to education in France, and has been the focus of a collaborative investigation and advocacy project with [Sciences Po Law School Human Rights Clinic](#) since 2019.

In 2020, we supported students to draft a [policy brief](#) on place of origin, access and participation in university education, based on [research conducted in the first stage of the project](#) and using our right to education monitoring guide as a framework.

In March, the students presented the brief to a [colloquium on Equal Opportunities or Equal Achievement in Higher Education](#) in Montpellier, France. We facilitated the distribution and advocacy outreach surrounding the [updated](#) version of the report and its accompanying [policy brief](#), in addition to supporting the development of articles on [territorial inequalities](#) and [higher education](#).

- **Education under attack: monitoring the impact of conflict on education in Ukraine**

Children in eastern Ukraine are missing out on their education. For six years conflict has raged in the region; 13,000 are dead and a staggering 670,000 children don't have access to safe education as a result. To shine a light on this persistent and protracted humanitarian and human rights crisis, in 2018 RTE began a pilot project in collaboration with Ukrainian partners to monitor the impact of the armed conflict on education.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In July 2020, we created the multimedia essay and accompanying [legal factsheet 'Caught in the crossfire: The right to education in eastern Ukraine'](#) - combining the journalists' evidence and with a human rights analysis.

This essay attracted attention on multiple platforms, and led to an Open Society Foundations Instagram takeover invitation for multimedia essay photographer and RTE collaborator Diego Ibarra Sanchez, serving to showcase the photographs and highlight our approach to using audiovisual information in human rights monitoring projects.

In addition, the findings of the project were used by Save the Children Ukraine in a joint submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and have strengthened our own ongoing advocacy - prompting us to extend our work in this area. We are currently working on a thematic monitoring guide and series of materials for journalists for publication in 2021.

- Working with ESCR-Net to monitor the use of data

RTE is a steering committee member of the ESCR-Net monitoring working group. ESCR-Net is an international network connecting over 280 NGOs, social movements and advocates across more than 75 countries to build a global movement to make human rights and social justice a reality for all. Our primary activity with ESCR-net has been to co-direct the development of a [collective position on human rights data](#), intended to challenge existing narratives and state practice regarding official data - which often falls short when it comes to the realisation of economic and social rights.

In 2020, we consolidated the final draft of the [collective position on data principles](#) and presented it in a workshop at RightsCon. In addition, the collective position was used as the basis for an [amicus curiae submitted to the Supreme Court of Mexico](#) on the lack of data collection in informal settlements, which helped secure a unanimous ruling from the First Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation in Mexico that the statistics bureau, INEGI, include informal settlements in the official census. Finally, RTE contributed to ESCR-Net's guide on [parallel reporting to advance women's economic and social rights](#), which itself was based on the Right to education handbook published in January 2019.

Sharing knowledge to make the right to education accessible

Core to our mission is the provision of authoritative, accessible and independent sources of information on the right to education. Our [website](#) is our backbone; published in four languages, it provides an online library of resources, materials and tools to empower frontline actors, civil society, social movements and states to apply the right to education in multiple contexts.

In addition, our social networks, e-bulletin, research, webinars, and participation in events are crucial channels via which we raise awareness of the various dimensions of the right to education, stimulate debates, and highlight emerging and neglected issues.

Publications and events

We make the right to education accessible in diverse forums, including through leadership and events.

IN 2020, RTE:

- Co-hosted and participated in 17 events, workshops, conferences and webinars Wrote and contributed to five articles and papers
- Co-edited one book
- Presented in French, English and Portuguese

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Website, social media and networks

In 2020, we invested in translations of website content to strengthen our commitment to build bridges between different language communities. Our social channels continued to grow in followers and increase in engagement, and our mailing lists expanded.

Partnerships and consortiums

We constantly engage and work in partnership with a diverse range of actors - including academics, researchers, NGOs, the UN community, African Commission and others - to build bridges and collaborate on common goals.

Below are some examples of our collaborative approach and outreach in 2020.

- **Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium**

RTE is an active member of the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC). The Consortium is an informal network of national, regional and global organisations and individuals who collaborate to analyse and respond to the challenges posed by the rapid growth of private actors in education from a human rights perspective and propose alternatives.

RTE is part of the facilitation group that supervises the coordinator and takes care of the administrative dimension of the Consortium. We also lead the working group on the Abidjan Principles, in addition to consulting on and reviewing reports. In 2020, we played an active role in the expansion of the network.

- **Francophone network against the commercialisation of education**

Throughout 2020, RTE played an active role in the [Francophone Network against the commercialisation of education](#). This informal network, which encompasses 303 member organisations from 37 countries, aims to ensure a collective mobilisation of the education actors in order to coordinate our responses to the commercialisation of education phenomena in Francophone countries and to propose alternative solutions.

In 2020, we participated in regular network meetings, in addition to conducting ongoing advocacy and research activities in conjunction with the Francophone Network Coordinator, whose position we contributed to the financing of and whose work we supervise.

Network highlights:

- 3 online meetings with the Network's members
- 6 newsletters were produced
- 60 articles and reports were shared on the Network's website nevendezpasleducation.org
- 2 articles were published

In addition, RTE played a crucial role in supporting the development of a [Network of Francophone researchers working on the issue of privatisation in education](#). Led by University of Geneva researcher Thibaut Lauwerier, the Francophone Network comprises 29 researchers from 13 countries.

- **International Network of Education in Emergencies (INEE)**

RTE is a member of the [INEE Advocacy working group](#). Throughout 2020, we worked in conjunction with partners on the launch of an advocacy brief on non-state actors' involvement in education in emergencies, with reference to the Abidjan Principles. This brief will launch in early 2021.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2020

Total Income for the year amounted to £204,987. Our main funder for the year since separating from CRIN was Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Wellspring (under CRIN incubation period), we have also received funding from UNESCO and Results.

Total Expenditure amounted to £65,423 since separating from CRIN and was fully spent on charitable activities.

Charities assets are held primarily in cash on deposit which on 31 December 2020 amounted to £242,697, £97,280 of this balance represents funding received in advance towards the next financial year and which has been treated as deferred income.

Principle risks and uncertainties faced by RTE is withdrawal of funding and impact it would have on the charity. Our main aim for 2021 is to fundraise and find new donors to broaden our funding base.

Reserves Policy

RTE aims to maintain reserves at least equivalent to three months essential operational expenditures. Reserves are established by either

- saving the money RTE received for services or
- Saving some remaining money from grant - which is not always possible.

The trustees estimate the amount of reserves for each year budget and review it on a quarterly basis at their executive board meeting.

Risk Management

RTE trustees established a number of policies and procedures to minimise the risk charity can be exposed to. RTE has also developed detailed Risk Register which is discussed and updated on each board meeting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

A fundraising strategy has been developed to accompany RTE strategy for 2020-2022. This has a priority for diversifying our funding base and seeking a balance between core funding for a core team and project-funding for specific initiatives / priorities. We are seeking core funding support for the delivery of the strategy as a whole and specific funding for the priority threads of work outlined in this strategy document. Potential new donors have been identified to be approached.

Aside from pursuing traditional donors and projects, RTE will explore new ways of raising funds for instance through individual donations, crowdfunding, lottery, selling of products or services.

COVID-19

Like many other organisations, we saw rapid changes to the way in which we work - with travel, conferences, office working and face to face meetings all hastily abandoned in favour of stay-at-home digital communications. Whilst this affected our usual activities, the advent of online tools meant that in some ways we were more interconnected than ever, and global events from individual living rooms became the norm. Our travel budget was significantly reduced and re-allocated to other budget lines.

Yet the aftershocks of the pandemic extend far beyond changes to working practices. Covid-19 has had a seismic impact on education systems globally. Schools for more than 168 million children have been permanently closed since March 2020 - and globally, an estimated 112 billion days of education have been lost. The impact of school closures has been felt disproportionately by the most disadvantaged communities, with some of the world's poorest children entirely cut off from their education. Despite the herculean efforts of teachers, parents and caregivers, existing inequalities have been exacerbated beyond measure by the pandemic, and the fragility of entire educational systems

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

has been revealed. And as pharmaceutical advances signal a tentative end to the worst ravages of Covid-19 globally, the impact on education systems and on the right to education for millions of children globally has yet to be fully established.

As 2020 drew to a close at the Right to Education Initiative, it was clear to us that while the pandemic has thrown global inequalities into sharper focus, it has also reinforced the importance of the right to education and the need to address the injustices the pandemic has intensified. We met the close of the year with renewed determination to make the right to education a reality for all, while reflecting on the achievements that were possible even in the face of such unprecedented adversity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Right to Education Initiative is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales on 19 May 2017 with the charity number 1173115. RTE is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Members of the Council

RTE appointed 3 new trustees in 2020 and followed below processes for recruitment:

- (1) Identifies the need for the new trustee.
- (2) The trustees agree what skills, experience and knowledge are needed, and write it down in the form of a short job description and person specification.
- (3) The trustees agree responsibilities and a process for recruitment; in doing this, they take care to comply with any specific requirements set out in the RTE's governing document.
- (4) The trustees consider the best methods of attracting a diverse range of candidates with the skills the charity needs.
- (5) Short-listing and interviews take place against agreed criteria. Interviews are carried out by a small panel of trustees, and each candidate is asked similar questions to ensure a fair and objective approach. Notes are kept of each interview.
- (6) Preferred candidates are identified and invited to join the trustees, subject to references, formal vetting and approval by the full trustee board. Unsuccessful candidates are notified and thanked for their interest.

Organisational Structure

RTE has a Board of 8 trustees who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present all 8 members (listed on page 1) are from a variety of professional background relevant to the work of the charity.

The scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the management of RTE's work rests with Executive Director. Director oversees a all parts of RTE work including finances and admin as well as Policy and Communication management. The director reports directly to board members when needs arise.

Staff

In December 2020, we recruited three new staff members to support the implementation of RTE's strategy 2020-2022:

- a programme manager on early childhood care and education, Rajakumari Michaelsamy,
- a part-time programme officer to support the work on the right to public education and non-states actors involvement in education, Hoda Awwad
- a part-time communication manager, Eleanor Rosenbach

They all started on 1st February 2021.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23rd September 2021 and signed on its behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Archer', with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

**David Archer (Chair)
Trustee**

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 11 to 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Kevin Fisher BA FCA CTA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
SM1 4BW

24 September 2021

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:			
Charitable activities	2	204,987	204,987
		<u>204,987</u>	<u>204,987</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable Activities	3	65,423	65,423
		<u>65,423</u>	<u>65,423</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	6	135,964	135,964
Net movement in funds			
Reconciliation of funds			
Balance brought forward		-	-
Balance carried forward		<u>£135,964</u>	<u>£135,964</u>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	£	2020	£
Current Assets				
Debtors	7	1,689		
Cash at bank and in hand		242,697		
		<u>244,386</u>		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	104,822		
		<u>104,822</u>		
NET ASSETS	9			<u>£139,564</u>
Represented by:				
FUNDS				
Unrestricted	9			139,564
				<u>£139,564</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 23rd Sept 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair
David Archer

The Notes form part of these Financial Statements.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

b) Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with agreed budgets and specified timeframes. Amounts received but which relate to future reporting periods are accounted for as deferred income. In the case of multi-year grants, the aggregate amount of future instalments not yet received or accrued and which are subject to satisfactory performance is disclosed as a contingent asset.

c) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included under the heading 'Charitable activities' which includes all costs directly associated with meeting the charity's objectives and also those costs necessary to support such activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the associated expense heading.

d) Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and which are receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES/contd...

f) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme open to employees with an Employer's Contribution fixed at 5.5% of gross salary. Employees can voluntarily contribute to the scheme at a level decided by them. Employees wishing to opt-out may do so. The board of trustees has agreed to allow staff members to operate an alternative pension scheme to be agreed with the management at a Council meeting. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged as an expense in the period to which they relate.

g) Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

h) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. In the case of multi-year grants received in instalments, exchange gains and losses are calculated by reference to the exchange rate prevailing at the time the grant was awarded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants and Contracts		
UNESCO	1,583	1,583
Results	3,837	3,837
CRIN (transfer of Wellspring grants)	168,161	168,161
Open Society Foundations	31,406	31,406
	<u>£204,987</u>	<u>£204,987</u>

In May 2017, Child Right International Network (CRIN) and Right to Education Initiative (RTE) signed an MOU (extended in July 2020) where CRIN agreed to support RTE through three incubation phases of fiscal sponsorship, then fiscal agency, and then full independence (the "incubation period"). This incubation period came to its conclusion on 1st of July of 2021. However, following agreement between CRIN, RTE and RTE's current donors, RTE became administratively, financially and fiscally independent from CRIN on 31st of July of 2020 and CRIN released accumulated funds in full to RTE, which had been kept on a separate CRIN/RTE account.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

3. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Direct Costs		
Salaries, fees and related costs	59,803	59,803
Recruitment costs	1,174	1,174
Foreign exchange losses	428	428
Payroll costs	305	305
Travel and subsistence	(1,117)	(1,117)
	<u>£60,593</u>	<u>£60,593</u>
Support Costs		
Premises costs	2,574	2,574
Office and administration costs	166	166
Website, computer and IT costs	257	257
Governance (see note 4)	1,500	1,500
Insurance	210	210
Subscriptions	123	123
	<u>4,830</u>	<u>4,830</u>
	<u>£65,423</u>	<u>£65,423</u>

All expenditure relates to the unrestricted funds.

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2020 £
Independent examination	£1,500
	<u>£1,500</u>

5. STAFF COSTS

	2020 £
Wages and salaries	37,873
Redundancy	5,808
Social security	-
Pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	1,919
	<u>£45,600</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 3. The average number based on full time equivalents was 2.

No employees received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) in excess of £60,000.

The Trustees were not remunerated during the year. No trustees were reimbursed any expenses during the year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £20,882. Under FRS102, employee benefits include gross salaries, employer's National Insurance contributions and employer's pension contributions.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

6. NET INCOME

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):	2020
Independent examination	£1,500
Operating lease rentals	£2,574
	£4,074

7. DEBTORS

	2020 £
Prepayments	71
Other debtors	825
Accrued income	793
	£1,689

8. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £
Accruals	7,445
Deferred income	97,280
Other creditors	97
	£104,822

	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Additions in the year £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Analysis of deferred income			
Open Society Institute	-	48,787	48,787
CRIN (transfer of Wellspring grant)	-	48,493	48,493
	£Nil	£97,280	£97,280

Deferred income relates to grant income received in advance of the next financial year.

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	-	-
Current assets	244,386	244,386
Current liabilities	(104,822)	(104,822)
As at 31 December 2020	£139,564	£139,564

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

/cont

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in 2020.

11. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from taxation on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. In the event of the charity being wound up, members have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.