



Your Local Media Needs to Hear the GPE Story

Classrooms are filling. Young minds are buzzing with the promise and potential of a fresh, new year of learning ahead. At least that's the case here in the United States. But too many young people worldwide are missing out on this vitally important chance. Take advantage of this time of year to write a letter to the editor calling for U.S. support for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

Even in these times when we say we put a premium on preparing our young people for a good quality of life and an ability to contribute to a more peaceable, stable world, [263 million children and youth](#) are out of school globally. For example, according to the GPE, "every year of schooling decreases the chances of youth getting caught up in violent conflict by 20%."¹

But world leaders are not standing idly by, and they need our help. They are starting to mobilize around a plan to give **25 million more children** a quality education through the Global Partnership for Education. This is the only partnership of its kind dedicated exclusively to education in the world's lowest-income and most fragile countries.

Since 2011, the U.S. government has made increasing annual investments in the Global Partnership for Education, helping drive its success. Unfortunately, earlier this year, the White House proposed slashing U.S. investments in the fight against global poverty, including education. These issues have strong bipartisan support in Congress, and now is no time to turn our back on the world's most vulnerable children. As the Global Partnership kicks off its fundraising drive for this [ambitious new plan](#), it's time for leadership, not retreat.

The Global Partnership is asking its developing country partners to allocate a full 20% of national government expenditure to education annually, and it is asking for a collective \$3.1 billion from donor governments over 2018-2020. Leaders like Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai have reminded the world that education is a human right — and that a quality education can radically change the trajectory of a child's life. This year, the U.S. has a chance to do its part, investing in a brighter future for millions.

Currently, a congressional resolution is circulating in the House of Representatives (H. Res. 466), and members of Congress can sign on to show their support for GPE. Use the media to call on your representative to sign the resolution and make sure the U.S. steps up its commitment to education.

You can tailor the template letter below and make it your own. Consider sharing a story about how education has positively impacted your life. You could reference memory, a teacher, an

¹ <https://replenishment.globalpartnership.org/en/assets/gpes-engagement-with-conflict-migration-and-education/>

opportunity as a way to make the letter one-of-a-kind. Just don't forget to end it with the call to action, asking your member to cosponsor [the resolution](#).

Why write a letter to the editor?

Writing a letter to the editor is a great way to make sure our government's commitment to this fight continues. Your senators and representatives are reading your local paper every day, trying to understand the issues that their constituents care about. They need to hear from you so they know that global education needs to be a top priority. Even one published letter can make a big difference!

Tips

- Keep your letter short. Check your newspaper for their length requirements, or simply keep the letter to 150-200 words.
- Make the letter personal. Customize with your own ideas, examples, and passion.
- Keep a look out for your letter in print and, if you're published, share on social media and with your members of Congress.
- Let RESULTS staff know you've been published, too!

Sample LTE

To the Editor:

As classrooms start to come to life with activity and learning, it's easy to forget that the possibilities on an education aren't available to every child.

An alarming 263 million children and youth are out of school globally. But we can change that if world leaders receive our support.

The Global Partnership for Education is launching a new plan to give millions more kids the education that is their fundamental right. Through cosponsorship of H.Res. 466, our congressional representatives can support the GPE's plan to give **25 million more children** a quality education through the Global Partnership for Education by 2020. This is the only partnership of its kind dedicated exclusively to education in the world's lowest-income and most fragile countries.

I hope we can count on [Your Representative]'s cosponsorship of H.Res. 466 to help make sure the U.S. shows leadership in education for a better world for us all.

[Your name]

[Your city and state]