

Taking Children Seriously: How the EU can Invest in Early Childhood Education for a Sustainable Future

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Young children are much more capable in acting, thinking, reasoning, and understanding than is commonly recognised. If these capabilities are to emerge there is a need to provide access to quality early childhood education, for all citizens throughout the European Union. Unfortunately, the quality and accessibility of early childhood education currently varies in EU member states. Young children have rights and shared responsibilities in achieving a sustainable future. Investments in high quality early childhood education, combined with education for sustainable development, represent a necessary component in promoting children's rights within the EU.

The report, "Taking Children Seriously", presents the research evidence on children's interest and ability to understand questions on the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. It also maps early childhood education within EU and in the world regarding quantity and quality. A number of clear recommendations for the future development of Early Childhood Education within EU will be presented. See <http://www.omep.org.se>

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