

GUADALAJARA MANIFEST

November 7, 8 and 9, 2014

We, the boys, girls and adolescents gathered in the Third National Child and Adolescent Encounter held on the 7th, 8th and 9th of November 2014 in Guadalajara, in representation of the child and adolescent participation bodies in Spain, and in the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, draft the following declaration with our conclusions in relation with the following issues, which directly affect us and about which we have reflected:

DISABILITY

The problem is not the disability but the obstacles

We observe the lack of means and resources destined to disabled people.

We commit ourselves to help whenever we can, to not look away and to teach people to accept disabled people.

We ask adults and different governments to not isolate them and to provide all the necessary help, like improved urban settings, job opportunities, adapted educational resources and specialized teachers.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

If you're motivated, you'll ace it

In class we feel overwhelmed because classrooms are too small, we get bored and we would like to be able to learn with games.

We think that in order to improve our education we should treat teachers better and look for motivations, both for them and for us. Moreover, we could take more care of the material and the school itself, and make different proposals to the directors.

We ask adults and authorities that all schools be the same. We also want them to provide more resources to all schools and to count on our opinion, interests and motivations.



CRISIS AND FAMILY

Boys and girls are the most vulnerable

We feel the crisis personally because our mothers and fathers have to work more and get stressed. Not all families can pay for schoolbooks and some also need help to pay for school food. Many people are unemployed and people immigrate because there is no work.

We also want all boys and girls to have everything they need like food and healthcare. The crisis can have a psychological effect on us by creating anxiety, shame and other traumas.

We, girls and boys, could help our family by saving energy and not asking for vagaries. Moreover, we commit ourselves to collaborate with associations that help others, to participate in charity acts and contribute to food banks.

We ask for more solidarity in adults, so that those who have more share with those who have less. We ask governments and the Administration to not keep the money collected from taxes and to ask for taxes depending on what each family has.

We would also like our parents not to work as much, so they can spend more time with us, and in general, more help for families, houses for those that are going to be evicted and more beds in shelters for homeless.

CIBERBULLYNG

Are you part of the problem or the solution?

We, boys, girls and adolescents, understand the need to educate everyone in the prevention of cyberbullying through the use of “netiquettes”, norms of good behaviour and respect in the Internet.

We commit ourselves to disseminate these norms, to place ourselves in another person’s shoes and teach to ask for help when necessary.

We propose adults and the Administration to help us, providing us access to the necessary means so that between all of us, we can all make everyone respect these norms.



CHILD PARTICIPATION

Even if we are children, you can trust us

We find it hard to be listened to, and when we achieve it, our proposals are not taken into account.

We commit ourselves to continue proposing ideas on the wellbeing of children, and thus improve the society we live in.

We ask adults and governments to listen to us, because we have the right to express our opinions and being taken into account. You must help us disseminate our initiatives and proposals, so that more and more people not only listen to us, but also consider us as voters, and other boys, girls and adolescents are encouraged to participate.

And so that all of society becomes aware of our proposals, so they are spread in towns and cities, taken into account by public institutions that represent us and so they can be applied whenever possible, we, the Child and Adolescent Participation Councils present in the Encounter in Guadalajara, and other bodies of child participation that have also ratified this manifest, sign on November 17, 2014.

The boys, girls and adolescents in representation of Alcalá de Henares, Alcobendas, Alcázar de San Juan, Alovera, Avilés, Belmonte de Miranda, Candamo, Castrillón, Carbajosa de la Sagrada, Cártama, Cuenca, Defensor de Menor de Andalucía, Formentera, Guadalajara, Humanes de Madrid, Laviana, Leganés, Lleida, Logroño, Madrid, Málaga, Meco, Mollerusa, Parrés, Puerto Real, Quart de Poblet, Rivas Vaciamadrid, San Cristóbal de Segovia, San Fernando de Henares, Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Santa Eulalia des Riu, Segovia, Siero, Sigüenza, Tarragona, Tineo, Torrejón del Rey, Vócar, Villanueva de la Serena y Villanueva de la Torre.

