



**70th Annual Conference of
the Comparative and International Education Society
“Re-examining Education and Peace in a Divided World”
3/28/2026 – 4/1/2026 San Francisco, California**

"Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed" (UNESCO Constitution)

In today's world, marked by increasing divisions and conflicts, the role of education as a catalyst for peace is more critical than ever. The theme "Re-examining Education and Peace in a Divided World" for the CIES 2026 conference aims to address pressing global and local concerns that resonate across regions experiencing division and conflict. This theme encourages a wide range of submissions from various contexts, promoting inclusive dialogue and various perspectives. Building on CIES's legacy, the theme revisits foundational principles of education for peace while adapting to contemporary challenges, inviting interpretations and contributions from various disciplines to enrich the discourse with multifaceted insights and innovative solutions.

Primary Objectives:

1. Share Empirical and Applied Research and Theoretical Insights: Disseminate research findings and theoretical perspectives on education and peace
2. Critically Examine Education's Role in Fostering Peace: Analyze how education can mitigate divisions and promote social cohesion.
3. Explore Effective Educational Practices: Investigate different educational practices, policies, and frameworks that contribute to peacebuilding.

Through these objectives, we aim to propose actionable strategies for incorporating peace into curricula and educational policies. The theme seeks to engage a broad audience, including educators, policymakers, and researchers, to collaboratively explore and identify effective ideas, methods and practices that have been successful in different geopolitical contexts.

Expected Outcomes:

- Comprehensive Understanding: Gain a deeper understanding of the relationship between education and peace in a divided world.
- Practical Recommendations: Provide educators and policymakers with actionable strategies to

link education and peace effectively.

- Strengthened Networks: Foster collaborations among professionals dedicated to contributing to peace through education.

By focusing on the theme "Re-examining Education and Peace in a Divided World," we aim to generate thought-provoking discussions and valuable insights that will contribute to the broader goal of global peace and social cohesion. The conference will serve as a platform for sharing knowledge, exchanging ideas, and building partnerships that can drive forward the agenda of education and peace in various contexts.

In conclusion, the theme "Re-examining Education and Peace in a Divided World" addresses critical global and local challenges and highlights the transformative potential of education in fostering peace. By engaging with this theme, we aim to contribute to the ongoing dialogue on global governance of education, such as post-SDGs and the 2030 global framework of education, providing a space for critical reflection, empirical research, and innovative solutions. We enthusiastically invite all members of the Comparative and International Education Society to contribute to the CIES 2026 Annual Conference by sharing research and transformative ideas on "Education and Peace." Together, we can explore how education can be a powerful force for peace in our divided world and work towards a more harmonious global society.

The conference logo was created by Ms. Sofya Ikeda, a 7th grader at Cooper Middle School in Virginia, USA. The origami crane symbolizes the Hibakusha's (atomic bomb survivors) prayer for peace. This image was chosen to commemorate the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Hidankyo (the Hibakusha's association) in 2024.