

Global Competence: Our Future, Our Responsibility

26-28 September | Budapest, Hungary

AFS Intercultural Programs and our distinguished partners invite those who share our Learning-to-Live-Together philosophy to the first ever **2018 AFS Global Conference: *Global Competence: Our Future, Our Responsibility*, 26-28 September 2018 in Budapest.**

The urgency of today's challenges requires a **united action from all—educators, policymakers, community and business leaders—who are invested in a globally-connected, peaceful future.** Join us to align policies and strategies, and to share tools and resources that empower educators of all stripes, at all levels to deliver essential 21st century skills to learners at every life stage.

Global Competence: Our Future, Our Responsibility

Today's economies are more global, and local communities more diverse. We are more interconnected than ever before, change is faster. Educating people of all ages to become globally competent and able to learn, live and work together is more important than ever. Isolationist politics, international conflicts and clashes of ideologies add even greater urgency to this need.

The inaugural AFS Global Conference will provide the **first-of-its-kind opportunity for real alignment and cooperation among all sectors** that have the need and the resources to develop global competence in classrooms, lecture halls and all learning and training environments that extend beyond formal education.

Together, we'll tackle questions such as:

- *How can all stakeholders in 21st century education connect, collaborate and align their global competency needs?*
- *What resources are required of different stakeholders—individually and together—to equip and support life-long learners in ensuring that global competency development is a fundamental component of education for all?*
- *What are the necessary competences, strategies and tools that educators and facilitators require to successfully foster global competence in learners?*

“If we don't get global competency right, we are building our education systems on sand.”

—Andreas Schleicher, Director, OECD Directorate for Education and Skills / PISA
Confirmed Keynote Speaker of 2018 AFS Global Conference

PISA is a worldwide assessment of education systems. It will include global competence measurement for the first time ever beginning in 2018.

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- How do we better integrate intercultural learning and global competency development into educator preparation and training?
- What are innovative practices that educators and organizations have developed to advance global competence?
- What role can civil society and community organizations play in supporting educators and learners in global competence development?
- What is the private sector's role in supporting global competence development?
- What are the challenges facing all stakeholder in developing global competence and how can these be transformed into opportunities?

Inviting all stakeholders to join in

Whether you are in a classroom, a boardroom or an assembly hall, we must work together across sectors and countries to share innovative ideas to set an urgent global competence agenda.

The 2018 AFS Global Conference will convene:

- **Educators** from early childhood through post-graduate levels, plus youth organizers, student leaders, academics and experts in Global Competence Education
- **Business leaders** and innovators
- **Policymakers and government representatives** from ministries of education and other branches, international governing bodies (UN, UNESCO, the Council of Europe, OECD) and diplomats
- **International education** and non-formal learning providers
- **Community organizations**, social entrepreneurs and volunteer leaders

Preliminary Conference Agenda

25-Sep Tue	26-Sep Wed	27-Sep Thu	28-Sep Fri	29-Sep Sat
The Sentio B2B Networking Conference <i>(by invitation only)</i>	Pre-Conference Workshops	Keynote	Plenary Session	AFS Network Strategy Meeting <i>(by invitation only)</i>
		Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions	
	Opening Plenary	AFS Global Awards Ceremony	Closing Plenary	
	Welcome Cocktail	Networking Dinner	Optional Activities	

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Content Tracks

The sessions at the conference will be organized under five content tracks to help 500+ attendees to identify the sessions that best fit their interests and needs.

Track 1: 21st century education systems and global competence

Global competence requires that we work together in alignment. Sessions in this track will bring together different stakeholders and identify roles and responsibilities required for each to make global competence a staple of formal and non-formal education around the world. This includes best ways to develop and implement meaningful policies, strategies, funding mechanisms and educational frameworks that ensure our institutions and educators are ready to help people become globally competent.

Track 2: Empowering primary and secondary school teachers to foster global competence

Teachers and educators need to be champions of global competency to foster these 21st century skills in others. Sessions in this track will explore what it takes to better prepare primary and secondary school teachers to incorporate global competence in their curricula and lesson plans. This covers the full range of resources—from strategies and materials to funding—that teacher education institutions and authorities should include in pre-service and ongoing teacher learning. We will explore the best practices in providing teachers with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to function and educate in an intercultural environment. This track will also tackle the impact of the latest OECD PISA assessment of global competence on teacher education.

Track 3: Incorporating global competency in higher education and professional development

Simply being in contact with other cultures is not enough to become truly globally competent. Sessions in this track will define how to create truly intercultural learning environments, programs and curricula that foster global competence and collaboration in higher education. This includes addressing the demands of employers and societies for more globally fluent workforces and citizens, exploring tools and strategies that most effectively satisfy their needs. We will define ways to empower universities and employers to do more than simply internationalize campuses and workplaces.

Track 4: Supporting global competence development beyond formal education systems

NGOs, study abroad, and non-formal education providers have a key role in supporting lifelong-learners' global competence development. This track will feature some of the most innovative approaches to global competence education through the use of state-of-the-art methodologies, study abroad programs, virtual exchanges, blended learning opportunities and more.

Track 5: Bridging the gaps to ensure alignment among all stakeholders

Different stakeholders around the world are already making strides in advancing the global education movement. Sessions in this track will ensure meaningful alignment and collaboration among policymakers, funders, educators, employers diverse local communities, and others who contribute to the “learning to live together” movement. This includes collaboration across sectors, national and ideological boundaries to create alignment among different stakeholders about how we define and measure global competence.

Visit conference.afs.org to learn more—or contact us with any questions at events@afs.org.