



MANIFESTO FOR FREEDOM OF EDUCATION

In September 2007, a new subject that is compulsory and contributes to school grades was placed on the Spanish education curriculum, namely Citizenship Education.

Introduced by the socialist Government, this subject sets out to develop the moral awareness of pupils at all educational levels: primary, secondary and sixth form, making schools “a space where pupils learn to develop a moral and civic awareness that fits with the democratic, pluralist, complex and changing society in which we live” (Ministry of Education and Science EM 7).

With this approach, which intrudes on parental competence, the subject goes beyond the recommendations of the Council of Europe and conflicts with article 27.3 of the Spanish Constitution, article 14.3 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and article 26.3 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

Citizenship Education is a subject that intends to teach “values” which go beyond constitutional ones, becoming **a subject which imparts a moral education to your children based on ethical considerations that not all of Spanish society shares.** Amongst these values are gender ideology and sexual diversity, *new human rights*, moral relativism and secularism.

By contrast, it is inconceivable that the subject Citizenship Education does not impart civic values such as patriotism, solidarity between Spanish regions, or education on such relevant institutions as the monarchy or national symbols.

Consequently, almost forty associations, platforms and civil society bodies such as PROFESSIONALS FOR ETHICS ("PROFESIONALES POR LA ÉTICA), have joined forces in an attempt to prevent Citizenship Education becoming a compulsory subject or, at least, to ensure that it respects parents' ideological freedom.

The Government has not heeded parent petitions and many parents have therefore had no choice but to resort to exercising their right to conscientious objection and ideological freedom as enshrined in the Spanish Constitution.

The Government and the socialist administration are threatening parents who object with the expulsion or suspension of their children from school.

THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONALS FOR ETHICS CALLS ON ALL THOSE BODIES ACROSS THE WORLD WHO DEFEND THE FREEDOM OF PARENTS TO CHOOSE THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION BASED ON THEIR MORAL OR RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS TO SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF SPANISH PARENTS.

ASSOCIATION _____ OF

(country) _____ JOINS

THE CAMPAIGN BY THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONALS FOR ETHICS IN OPPOSING THE SUBJECT CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND SUPPORTING THE RIGHT TO CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION BY PARENTS.

SIGNED

(Include contact e-mail address).

PROFESIONALES POR LA ÉTICA, C/Juan Bravo, 58.
28006 MADRID (ESPAÑA)
info@profesionalesetica.org
www.profesionalesetica.org