**SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**

**CENTRE FOR GLOBAL CITIZEN EDUCATION**

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**SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT ITEM no.1**

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE**

**A GLOBAL CITIZEN?**

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**Hanoi, October 10th , 2022**

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Erlangen, Le Xuan Nhat

**SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT ITEM NO.1**

In an increasingly globalized world, understanding the way to be a global citizen and actively engage with the trends and changes of a linked world is integral. Terrorism, transnationalism, immigration, climate change, and technological disruption are fundamentally global challenges, and individuals must recognize the impact of those issues on their lives and communities. However, the utilization of seemingly synonymous terms such as “world citizen, earth citizen” to explain a global identity, as well as the influence of various researchers’ perspectives; make it difficult to define the concept of global citizenship (Reysen & Katzarska-Miller, 2013). Despite that, in this paper the meaning of global citizenship will be generalized based on the following ideas: it advocates for individuals to be aware of their role in the world as well as the role that others should play. The concept also provides an opportunity to learn about how the world works and to value and appreciate diversity.

Global citizens should understand how the world's peoples and countries are interconnected and interdependent (Reysen & Katzarska-Miller, 2013). For instance, we must understand how the global environment affects us where we live; how human rights violations in other countries can affect our human rights; how growing income and resource inequalities within and between countries affect the quality of our own lives; and how the global telecommunications network affects us where we live. As of right now, events and conditions in one area of the world are now broadcasted instantly through social media and have far-reaching consequences in other parts of the world. The amount of social media network connections and the frequency of Internet use have been linked to the development of a global identity (Cesario, 2017).

A global citizen who understands how the world works, the connection between nations, who recognizes social justice, and who acts for political rights, critical thinking, and against injustice can help fight for a better future (Israel, 2013). To accomplish that mission, global citizens should comprehend the severity of various global issues such as global warming, climate change, the war on terrorism, and deadly pandemics. No matter where they are across the globe, global citizens should have a sense of obligation to assist when the rights of others are violated, keeping in mind that small actions can result in significant changes (Cesario, 2017). Encouragement of global citizenship education is highly essential for the sake of the future. Many areas have absorbed global citizenship training in their curriculum. Multicultural education, peace education, and human rights education are all samples of such. (Brigham, 2011)

It is important to also learn our own and others' viewpoints on global issues. Almost every global issue is accompanied by different ethnic, social, political, and economic perspectives (Oxfam). The concurrent Russo-Ukrainian War is an example of this, along with other notable historical events like the Cold War, Middle East conflicts, and much more. It is the responsibility of global citizens to acknowledge these many points of view and work together to find common ground solutions. A global citizen usually avoids taking sides with one point of view and instead seeks ways to bring all sides together. A global citizen typically steers clear of siding with any one viewpoint and instead looks for opportunities to reconcile opposing viewpoints (Lilley et al., 2014) In addition, Lilley et al. (2014) also demonstrate:

*Through their widened horizons, students provided considerable insight into how they were recalibrating their future lives and careers. Students described enhanced motivation for study, changed career directions, heightened interest in global issues related to their study, and feelings of openness toward discovering other cultures and countries.*

It is possible due to their broadened view the course of their lives can changes drastically in a positive way. Points of view restricted by local prejudices are no more, and now more than at any time in history, humankind has the chance to see the world for themselves.

To summarize, global citizens are those who identify first and foremost as members of the human race, not as members of a state, nation, or tribe. They are ready to take action to address the world's most pressing concerns, including poverty, climate change, and gender equality. What the world does not need are off-spikes, short-term exhilaration, or a politician's fluctuating moment. It is a network of people that are passionate about resolving interconnected challenges, as well as a long-term goal to assist others outside borders. While maintaining the mindset of a global citizen, benefits oneself, one’s surroundings, as well as the world, is definitely going to be a better place for everyone to live in.

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