

Open Appeal from Nobel Laureates and Scientists to UN Secretary-General António Guterres, Heads of State, Business Leaders, and Citizens of the World, urging them to support the international campaign "A Computer Class for Every School in Africa"

We, the undersigned Nobel Laureates, scientists, and people of goodwill, call on you to join us in supporting the transformative initiative "A Computer Class for Every School in Africa"

Education is the cornerstone of progress and development, yet hundreds of millions of children in Africa are deprived of access to basic digital tools and education. In a rapidly developing global economy, digital inequality exacerbates poverty and inequality, limiting the potential of countless young minds. A lack of technological education exposes the youth in these regions to risks like involvement in criminal activity, susceptibility to extremist ideologies, and a compulsion towards forced migration. These factors directly contribute to both regional and global security challenges.

This problem can swiftly be solved by equipping each school with a classroom with gently used computers in good condition, provided by corporations from developed countries, along with free educational content, learning desks, and solar panels. Using refurbished computers not only addresses the problem of education but also significantly reduces electronic waste. The installation of solar panels ensures a reliable power supply, especially in remote and underdeveloped areas, further stabilizing communities and reducing the risk of unrest due to resource scarcity.

The "Computer Class for Every School in Africa" campaign is aimed at closing this gap by providing schools across Africa with the necessary resources to teach computer literacy. This initiative will endow students with important skills, opening doors for them in technology, science, and many other fields. By increasing the level of digital literacy, we empower the next generation to make meaningful contributions to the development of their communities and the world.

The implementation of this project has the potential to bring about an educational and cultural revolution for millions of people in Africa, creating conditions for obtaining education, developing skills necessary for higher-paying jobs, contributing to local economies, and

building stable communities. As these young people become economically productive and socially engaged citizens, the risk of them being drawn into destabilizing activities significantly decreases. This, in turn, reduces the pressures that lead to migration and conflict, thereby strengthening regional stability and global security.

We urge UN Secretary-General António Guterres, leaders of the world's leading countries, and heads of major corporations and universities, to support the global initiative "A Computer Class for Every School in Africa," proposed by the Global Alliance for ICT and Development. We also appeal to citizens of the world to contribute in any conceivable way —whether through donations, raising awareness, or volunteer activities. Every action counts and brings us closer to a world where every child has the chance to realize their full potential. Together, we can help ensure that every school in Africa has the resources to provide quality computer education, paving the way for a generation of strong, educated, and innovative young people.

Signatures:

- **Sheldon Lee Glashow**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (1979), USA
- **Sir Richard J. Roberts**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (1993), United Kingdom
- **Harvey J. Alter**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (2020), USA
- **Charles M. Rice**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (2020), USA
- **Louis J. Ignarro**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (1998), USA
- **Arthur McDonald**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (2015), Canada
- **Yuan-Tseh Lee**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (1986), Taiwan
- **Sir Peter John Ratcliffe**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (2019), United Kingdom
- **Giorgio Parisi**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (2021), Italy
- **John Maxwell Coetzee**, Nobel Laureate in Literature (2003), South Africa
- **Gerard 't Hooft**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (1999), Netherlands
- **William D. Phillips**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (1997), USA
- **Gregg L. Semenza**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (2019), USA
- **Joachim Frank**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2017), Germany

- **Sir Christopher Pissarides**, Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences (2010), Cyprus/UK
- **Paul Milgrom**, Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences (2020), USA
- **Jerome I. Friedman**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (1990), USA
- **Herta Müller**, Nobel Laureate in Literature (2009), Germany
- **Kurt Wuthrich**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2002), Switzerland
- **David Gross**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (2004), USA
- **Didier Queloz**, Nobel Laureate in Physics (2019), Switzerland
- **Ada Yonath**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2009), Israel
- **J. Michael Bishop**, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (1989), USA
- **Elias James Corey**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (1990), USA
- **Roger D. Kornberg**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2006), USA
- **Bengt Holmstrom**, Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences (2016), Finland
- **Oleksandra Matviichuk**, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (2022), Ukraine

Last updated on October 14, 2024. More signatories will be added.