

At a Glance

Jan De Groof is professor at the *College of Europe* (Bruges, Belgium), at Tilburg University (the Netherlands) and previously at Ghent University (Belgium), teaching international and comparative educational law, policy and governance. His academic work, numerous publications and consultancy have covered many education rights-related issues but also constitutional and human rights law. His doctoral students, coming from several continents, focus on various aspects of the Right to Education.

De Groof has been visiting professor and/or taught at universities worldwide. He is founder and president of the European Association for Education Law and Policy (ELA) and co-founded i.a. the Russian and South-African Education Law Associations. He chaired – at the request of all regional Education Law and Policy Associations – the two World Conferences on *Human Dignity, the Right to and Rights in Education* (Amsterdam/The Hague, Brussels).

De Groof was *UNESCO Chargé de Mission on the Right to Education* (2007-2010) at the request of the DG. He was and remains intensively involved in consultancy for national parliaments, governments and stakeholders, not the least in time of transition (Russia: 1990-2000, South Africa: 1995-2002, Balkan region: 2002-2010, Iraq: 2013-2014, Ukraine: 2014-2016), often in cooperation with multilateral organisations. He is member of the ‘Council of Senior Advisors’ of the International Association of University Presidents (IAUP), accredited to the UN, and vice-chair of the Legal Committee of EQAR.

Furthermore, De Groof has been Team Leader of the EU-Project *The Rule of Law - Curriculum Reform of Legal Studies in Universities, especially in Iraq*.

In 2015 he received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Pretoria (South Africa), giving “recognition to his significant role as leader in various fields of education and law, his global influence in education law during the late 20th and the 21st century, as well as his assiduous campaigning for justice and good governance in education.” He chaired the Law and Policy Sessions in the framework of the World Congress on Catholic Education (Vatican and Castelgandolfo, November 2015).

In 2016 he received an Honorary Doctorate from the South East European University of Tetovo (Macedonia), and he is appointed by Pope Franciscus as Consultor for Education for the next five years.