

THE GRAMENET FOUNDATIONS

Foundations for education and culture in the Catalan Republic.

The sectors for Culture and Education want to express our conviction that in the Catalan Republic education and culture must contribute definitively to the full development of citizens and that in this way we will enrich the Catalan contribution to the world. The Catalan culture has resisted over centuries the attacks against it as a minority, has survived the attempts to efface it and has advanced permeable and in constant evolution until today. The Catalan school has equally fought to maintain quality and pedagogical modernity and has had a key role in educating and building a cohesive, democratic, and free society.

With the conviction that culture and education are therefore fundamental pillars for the full human development in all advanced societies, the ten following points aim to contribute to establishing the educational and cultural foundations of the new Catalan Republic.

1. Education and culture are fundamental rights for all citizens and must be recognised as such in the Catalan Constitution.
2. Education and culture are fundamental in all democratic states and are indispensable for the equality and liberty of individuals and a society.
3. Education and culture are creative commons that need to be preserved. Their development is based upon the shared responsibility of public institutions, civil organisations, and the citizens.
4. Catalan culture has to include and welcome the diversity of cultural expressions that coexist in our territory, because identity is a process in constant construction.
5. Catalan is the language of Catalonia and as such must enjoy the status and role corresponding to it as a language of state. In consequence, it has to be the lingua franca that articulates the whole educational system including the university sector. All languages, regardless of the number of speakers, are the cultural patrimony of humanity. They need to be preserved and respected.
6. Catalonia must collaborate with institutions and cultural agents from all the territories where Catalan is spoken for the vitality and projection of the shared language and culture it expresses.
7. The institutions and cultural agents of Catalonia must participate actively in international organisations and cultural networks and contribute in particular to the protection and promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity in the world.
8. The Catalan education system has to seek the full competency of its students in all areas of knowledge and aim to situate Catalonia on a par with the leading countries of the OECD
9. Education and culture are indispensable tools with which to confront situations of discrimination and all citizens must be guaranteed full access to education and culture, and support for self-learning and informal education, essential for human development throughout life.
10. Only a decided commitment to education and culture and the building of complicities, and strategic, structured synergies between the two areas will contribute to the full development, individual and shared, of the citizens of Catalonia.