



Ministero dell'Istruzione

MINISTERIAL MEETING EDUCATION

22 June 2021

Media Handbook
www.g20.org

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ABOUT THE G20



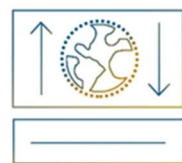
Population

60% of the world population



Economy

80% of global GDP



Trade

75% of global exports

The G20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies. Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet. The forum has met every year since 1999 and includes, since 2008, a yearly Summit, with the participation of the respective Heads of State and Government.

In addition to the Summit, ministerial meetings, Sherpa meetings (in charge of carrying out negotiations and building consensus among Leaders), Working Groups and special events are organised throughout the year.

Members

The G20 members are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union. Spain is also invited as a permanent guest.

Each year, the Presidency invites guest countries, which take full part in the G20 exercise. This year, Italy has invited the Netherlands and Singapore. Several international and regional organisations also participate, granting the forum an even broader representation.

How the G20 works

The G20 does not have a permanent secretariat: its agenda and activities are established by the rotating Presidencies, in cooperation with the membership.

A "Troika", represented by the country that holds the Presidency, its predecessor, and its successor, works to ensure continuity within the G20.

The Troika countries are currently Saudi Arabia, Italy, and Indonesia.

Origins of the G20

In 1999, in the wake of the 1997 economic crisis, the G7 Finance Ministers announced the creation of the "Group of 20", aimed at including other countries in their discussions related to global economics and finance. The first official meeting of the G20 was held in Berlin in December that same year.

Following the 2008 financial crisis, the United States proposed to increase the level of participation of the G20 to Heads of State and Government.

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the Heads of State and Government decided to institutionalise the G20 as the main forum for global economic and financial cooperation.

Since 2010, the G20 Leaders have met every year.

THE ITALIAN G20 PRESIDENCY

PEOPLE PLANET PROSPERITY

Humanity is facing many difficult challenges today, which have a direct impact on the life and well-being of the world population. Today, more than ever before, it is essential that the international community shares in its responsibilities and takes a long-term view. Aware of its role, the G20 is firmly committed to seeking coordinated, fair and effective responses able to lay the basis for a better, more sustainable future.

The pandemic has caused major damage, negatively impacting health systems, poverty indexes and international trade. It has added its burden onto other systemic problems, from climate change to inequality. It has also made one thing clear: we live in an era in which local problems swiftly become global challenges. Shared solutions must therefore be sought, to build back better, adopting innovative tools and technologies to assure a more resilient, greener growth.

In an increasingly interconnected world, multilateralism is far more than an abstract concept. It is the key to responding to these challenges, and the G20, bringing together much of the world's population and of the global economy, must live up to its role. This is why the 2021 G20, under the Italian Presidency, will focus on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: **People, Planet and Prosperity**.

Within these pillars, we are taking the lead in ensuring a swift international response to the pandemic – able to provide equitable, worldwide access to diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines – while building up resilience to future health-related shocks.

We are also looking beyond the crisis, towards ensuring a rapid recovery that addresses people's needs. This implies a focus on protecting the most vulnerable people and countries, on women's empowerment and on the younger generations. It means promoting the creation of new jobs, social protection, and food security.

We need to pave the way for an ambitious, effective, sustainable recovery. Rebuilding more efficiently, through a better use of renewable energies and with a firm commitment to protecting our climate and our common environment.

These are prerequisites for sustained prosperity, one which also requires that we properly harness the main drivers of growth and innovation. The G20 is therefore working to bridge the digital divide and make digitalisation an opportunity for all, improve productivity and – in short – to leave no one behind.

2021 MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

Many institutional meetings (Working Groups, Ministerial Meetings and final Summit) and special events will take place over the course of the year-long Italian Presidency.

The intense schedule will embrace a large part of the country, highlighting many of the excellences scattered throughout Italy.

The dates and format of the events may be subject to change.

		
4 May	Tourism	VTC
22 - 23 June	Labour and Employment, and Education	Catania
29 June	Foreign Affairs, and Development	Matera
30 June	Ministerial Event on humanitarian assistance	Brindisi
9 - 10 July	Economy and Finance	Venice
22 - 23 July	Environment, Climate and Energy	Naples
29 - 30 July	Culture	Rome
5 - 6 August	Innovation and Research	Trieste
5 - 6 September	Health	Rome
17 - 18 September	Agriculture	Florence
12 October	International trade	Sorrento
30 - 31 October	G20 Summit	Rome

EDUCATION MINISTERIAL MEETING

CONTEXT

What impact has the health emergency had on education systems? What is the future of the education system and, above all, will it take into account the experiences gained during the months of the pandemic? What mechanisms are needed for smoothing the transition from school to work? These are among the issues that will be explored on June 22 in Catania, at the Education Ministerial Meeting under the G20 Italian Presidency. The meeting will be chaired by the Minister of Education, Patrizio Bianchi.

Aware of their decisive role in the recovery, development and stability of our economies and that the fight against educational inequalities is fundamental to foster sustainable and inclusive growth, *People, Planet and Prosperity* - the priorities of the Italian Presidency - are also the guidelines for the dialogue on Education and Training between G20 countries, which started in January 2021 and will conclude with the Ministerial Meeting in Catania.

Over the course of the Italian Presidency, the Education Working Group focused, above all, on the policies and procedures put in place to counter the educational crisis caused by the health emergency, such as the different types of blended learning that allow to combine face-to-face teaching with online distance teaching. In addition to this, measures adopted by the G20 countries to mitigate inequalities and reduce educational poverty, narrow digital divides, and combat early school leaving were shared and discussed. This work led to the drafting of a report on the pilot experiences and good practices activated.

During the Education Ministerial Session, the G20 Ministers of Education will have the opportunity to share the interventions and strategies implemented during the pandemic emergency, designed to foster greater resilience of the education systems and guarantee quality education to every student, with the goal of leaving no one behind.

In the Labour and Employment and Education Joint Ministerial Session, the issue of the transition from education to work will be addressed, with particular attention to young people, women, and vulnerable groups.

HOST CITY: CATANIA



A city famous for its art, culture and the volcano, Mount Etna, Catania's coastline edges with the bright blue Ionian Sea and the green *Piana*, Sicily's largest plain, best known for its intense aroma of citrus fruits. Founded as *Katane* by the Chalcidian Greek settlers back in 729 BC, its history has seen a great many different populations and civilisations come and go.

The traces left by the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Swabians, Anjou, Aragonese and Spanish flourish under the shadow of the magnificent Baroque that marked the reconstruction after the 1693 earthquake. Indeed, it has been such an artistically imposing rebirth as to have received the honour of being named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Past and future, tradition and innovation, faith and folklore characterise the city in its multiple expressions, starting with the festival of Saint Agatha, the third most important of all the Christian world.

Even the flavours, colours and sounds echo a past that continues to live today in the superb opera composed by Vincenzo Bellini, the warm welcome offered by its people, the local markets and the varied culinary itineraries.

The rugged coastline, softened by the mild climate, alternates beaches of golden sand with stunning lava rock cliffs, making Catania one of the Mediterranean's most precious gems.

AGENDA 22 JUNE 2021



10:30 – 13:00

Education Ministers Meeting



Coffee break

14.30 – 17.15

Labour and Employment, and Education Joint Ministerial Session

PRESS CONFERENCE

The Media Center is located in the west wing of the Benedictine Monastery. It opens on 21 June 2021, from 16.00 to 22.00 CET, and on 22 and 23 June from 10 to 22 CET.

To access the Media Center, media representatives are required to show a negative rapid antigen test, carried out within 48 hours prior to entry.

The press conference for the Education Ministerial Meeting will take place in the Auditorium of the Benedictine Monastery on 22 June 2021, at 17.20 CET.

The conference will be attended by:

- **Patrizio Bianchi**, Minister of Education

Journalists, photographers, and TV crews interested in attending the press conference with Minister Bianchi may request accreditation by 19 June 2021, no later than 16.00 CET, via the following link <https://g20italia2021.org/ct1/mediahome.aspx> or through the online Accreditation section of the Italian G20 Presidency website: www.g20.org

For conference registration, applicants must provide the required details and upload a copy of the following documents (PDF or JPG format, max. 2MB):

- Valid passport or ID card (mandatory)
- Letter of assignment on official letterhead (mandatory also for freelance journalists)
- Photo (exclusively JPG format, max. 2MB)
- Press card

CONTATTI

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