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THE EFFECTS OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE STATES IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

The impact of the covid-19 on the right of education has been huge. A large number of the states decided to adopt measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus, including closing schools or universities and implementing distance learning (DAD) through online platforms. According to estimates by UNESCO, the Coronavirus has affected nearly 90% of the world's students. Almost 1.2 billion learners have remained out of school in 180 countries. Students from groups who already faced discrimination and exclusion from education even before the pandemic (such as children with disabilities, children living in or near poverty and migrant children) have been mostly affected by the states measures.

The aim of this article is to examine the right to education in the light of measures introduced to end the spread of coronavirus. As will be seen more clearly in the text, states can adopt exceptional measures, even without formally declaring states of emergency, to protect public health that may restrict or derogate certain rights. We shall try to clarify the situations in which such derogations/restrictions may take place. In doing so, we shall take into account the most relevant international instruments in this field, such as the International Covenant on civil and political rights and the European Convention on Human Rights. Finally, we will verify the short and long-term impact of measures adopted by the states during pandemic on the right to education.