

## IV INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF THE PAULO FREIRE FORUM

# PORTO LETTER

### WORKING FOR A PLANETARY MULTICULTURAL CITIZENSHIP

We live in a historic juncture that, interpreted critically and hopefully challenges us to “work to legitimize the ethical-political dream of overcoming an unjust reality”(Paulo Freire). For this reason, the IV International Meeting of the Paulo Freire Forum, held in the city of Porto, Portugal, from 19 to 22 September 2004, with the theme “Walking for a Multicultural Citizenship,” reaffirms the complexity and variety of the interpretations and explanations of the actual world, yet doesn't justify maintaining and deepening the exclusion of the majority population of humanity.

In this meeting, we work to consolidate new proposals for planetary multicultural citizenship, giving continuity to the Paulo Freire Forum proposals, formulated and approved in International Meetings such as in São Paulo (São Paulo Letter, 1998), with guiding principles of the action in defense of the oppressed; in Bologna (Bologna Letter, 2000), in which was released the Paulo Freire Universitas Movement (UNIFREIRE); in Los Angeles (Planetaries Elections, 2002), where the accord was confirmed “as a possible dream” for the world.

The Porto Forum underlines the importance of building human relations founded on the principals of emancipatory cohabitation, love, sensitivity creativity and recognizing that to achieve this objective it is necessary to impose the substitution of the Capitalist order for a new World Order, in which the communities and nations, can be actors in their own histories. This inclusion validates both collective identities and individual subjectivities. The strengthening of citizenship, democracy, and the character of public education is defended. It is understood that the intertranscultural, critical dialog is as a instrument, a liberating practice that strengthens the processes of knowledge.

Based on this suppositions, we defend the implementation of all the worldwide non-violent movements and actions that give potential to social inclusion and that resist ethical transgressions resistance; we radically oppose all imperialist forms of domination and oppression, particularly military, and reiterate the following accords:

1. Struggle to surpass the oppressive situation of people, communities and nations to enable each to be the subjects of his/her own rights and values and assume education as a possible dream.
2. Contribute to stimulate the initiatives relating to the Eco-politics-pedagogic projects in different communities.
3. Integrate local, national and world webs of people and institutions to valorize and to strengthen modes of Planetary Multicultural Citizenship, in a perspective of critical questioning and struggle against neoliberalism and other hegemonic forms of power.
4. Contribute with social movements, especially in the level of justice, in the fight

for peace and the defense of the principles in the “World Letter” (1999), the “Manifest 2000” (Unesco), the “Millennium Declaration” (2000), the documents approved in International Meetings of the Paulo Freire Forum, in addition to principles already endorsed in extensive national and international discussions, as a reassertion of an ethic-liberation of peoples– and, particularly, the principles of the World Education Forum and World Social Forum.

5. Reaffirm that education, knowledge, science and technology as a common right; and vehemently rejecting its commercialization, as it has been being defended by bilateral and multilateral agencies, especially by World Trade Organization (WTO).