



21st Century Educational Alternatives SIG

*Confronting Racial
Capitalism, Patriarchy,
Militarism, and the
Climate Crisis*

CIES 2026

"Re-examining Education and
Peace in a Divided World"
Online & San Francisco, California

March 28 to April 1, 2026



Learn more
about TAP



Sign up
for our SIG



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www.thealternativesproject.org



21st Century Educational Alternatives SIG

*Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism,
and the Climate Crisis*

CIES 2026

This year we proudly present 19 panels, 3 symposia and a highlighted session – **all underscoring the need to reimagine education for societal transformation.**

In addition to our sessions, we hope you will stop by at our table in the Exhibit Hall to learn more about us, join our business meeting to discuss ways to get involved, engage in our featured events in solidarity with Iranian educators & students, come to one of two activist walking tours in the Bay Area, and enjoy our multi-SIG social.

Please come join us as we hold space for critical conversations about peace and justice in this new world (dis)order. Build solidarity and work together to create a more just and humane world!

Who we are

The 21st Century Educational Alternatives SIG is organized by members of The Alternatives Project.

The Alternatives Project (TAP) envisions and works towards a radical rethinking of education and society globally.

The Alternatives Project (TAP) is a diverse, transnational collective of progressive academics, union members, civil society activists, and social movement participants concerned with building a global collective and critical voice—oriented towards education and societal transformation.

Learn more
about TAP



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SIG HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, March 29

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Symposium N°1: Education and The Political Economy of Genocide: A Discussion of the UNSR Report "From economy of occupation to economy of genocide"

10:00 AM - 1:15 PM

South Asian Radical History Walking Tour (flyer attached)

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM
Ballroom Level, Continental A

Symposium N°2: Education's role in Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crises

Monday, March 30

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Lobby Level, Golden Gate 6

Critical Comparative Education: Understanding the Research Complex and its Consequences

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Learning With/From Sites of Empire and Settler Colonialism: Palestine, Iran, and Knowledge Production Across the Transatlantic Global North

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Ballroom Level, Continental
Ballroom 4, 5 & 6

CIES 2026 Keynote Address: Peace Education in Precarious Times

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Human Capital: A Brilliant Idea or An Ideological Dead End? (Steve vs. Steve)

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM
6th Floor, Nob Hill 2&3

Business Meeting 21st Century Educational Alternatives: Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crisis SIG

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM
Ballroom Level, Continental
Ballroom 4, 5 & 6

Presidential Invited Symposium: Educating and Organizing for Peace and Justice: Lessons from Decades of Activism in the Bay Area and Beyond

Happy Hour

Multi-SIG Social Event: 21st Century Educational Alternatives: Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crisis; Globalization & Education; Study Abroad and International Students

Tuesday, March 31

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Black Panther Party Murals in West Oakland (flyer attached)

Wednesday, April 1

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Symposium N°3: Peace is not Neutral: Comparative Education in Times of Accelerated Militarism

Visit us at The Alternatives Project table in the Exhibit Hall throughout the conference

21st Century Educational Alternatives SIG

FULL Program of SIG Events

Hear and engage with TAP members!

Saturday, March 28

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
6th Floor, Nob Hill 8&9

From Theory to Praxis: Designing Education Alternatives within Farsi-speaking Communities experiencing Conflict and Political Instability

Deepa Srikantaiah, American University - School of Education, Chair
Alice Taylor, Georgetown University, University of Denver, Chair
Ahmad Medadi, IOE, UCL
Michael Gibbons, The Alternatives Project
Roozbeh Shirazi, University of Minnesota

11:30 AM
Beginning at Embarcadero Plaza

No Kings Rally and March (march ends near Union Sq.)

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Cultivating Peace through Resistance: Teaching for Justice Across Borders and Histories

Monisha Bajaj, University of San Francisco, Chair
David Andrew Tow, University of San Francisco
Genesis Jasmin Morales, University of San Francisco
Rosa M Jimenez, University of San Francisco
Carmen E Barba, USF School of Education

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM
6th Floor, Nob Hill 6&7

Attacks to Academic Freedom in the context of Persisting Inequalities

Camilla Croso, Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas, Chair
Clara Arenas, Asociación para el avance de las ciencias sociales en Guatemala, Avancso
Anthony Lewis Wagner, New York University

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM
6th Floor, Nob Hill 1

Academic Freedom and Democratic Backsliding in Latin America

Carol Anne Spreen, New York University, Chair
Camilla Croso, Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas
Gustavo Setrini, FLACSO Paraguay
Maria Fernanda Silva Assis, Federal University of Minas Gerais
Jose Henrique Bortoluci, Maranta

Sunday, March 29

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

4th Floor, Union Square 19

Reimagining Education for Planetary Futures: Refusal, Relationality, and Radical Renewal

Iveta Silova, Arizona State University, Chair
Victoria Desimoni, Arizona State University
Carrie Karsgaard, Cape Breton University
Dilraba Anayatova, Arizona State University
Carla Andrea Sabbatini, Universidad De San Andrés
Jeremy Rappleye, The University of Hong Kong

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Symposium N°1: Education and The Political Economy of Genocide: A Discussion of the UNSR Report "From economy of occupation to economy of genocide"

Rezan Benatar, Independent Scholar, Chair
Salim Vally, University of Johannesburg, (online)
Sangeeta Kamat, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Mark Ginsburg, University of Maryland
Zeena Zakharia, University of Maryland
Pauline Lipman, University of Illinois, Chicago

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Lobby Level, Plaza Room A

Promoting Peace from the Grassroots Up: A Participatory Human Rights Education Approach in West Africa

Molly Melching, Tostan, Chair
Yussuf Abdurrahman Sané, Tostan, Chair

10:00 AM - 1:15 PM

South Asian Radical History Walking Tour (flyer attached)

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Ballroom Level, Continental 8

Symposium N°2: Education's role in Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crises

Steve Klees, University of Maryland, Chair
Nanre Nafziger, McGill University
Frank Adamson, Sacramento State University
Alice Taylor, Georgetown University, University of Denver
Becky Tarlau, Stanford University

Monday, March 30

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Ballroom Level, Continental 7

Form as Praxis: Aesthetics, Affect, and Dialogue in Comparative & International Education

Will Brehm, University of Canberra, Chair
Irving Epstein, Illinois Wesleyan University
Iveta Silova, Arizona State University
Victoria Desimoni, Arizona State University
Dilraba Anayatova, Arizona State University
Nicole Oster, Arizona State University
Sandra Nabulega, Arizona State University
Hugh McLean, NORRAG

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Lobby Level, Golden Gate 6

Critical Comparative Education: Understanding the Research Complex and its Consequences

Jonathan David Jansen, Stellenbosch University, Chair
Joel Samoff, Stanford University
Carlos Alberto Torres, UCLA
Sangeeta G. Kamat, Univ of Massachusetts Amherst
Rebecca Tarlau, Stanford University

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

4th Floor, Union Square 21

Pedagogies for Peace: Linguistic, Feminist, and Decolonial Approaches

Sandra L Stacki, Hofstra University, Chair
Makynzie Horvath, International Education Policy Department, University of Maryland, College Park
Deanna Pittman, California Institute of Integral Studies
Mathias Urban, Dublin City University

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Learning With/From Sites of Empire and Settler Colonialism: Palestine, Iran, and Knowledge Production Across the Transatlantic Global North

Roozbeh Shirazi, University of Minnesota, Chair
Nikoo Nikoonazari, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
Zeena Zakharia, University of Maryland College Park
Maria Hantzopoulos, Vassar College
Taher Herzallah, American Muslims for Palestine
Hanadi Shatara, California State University Sacramento

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Ballroom Level, Continental
Ballroom 4, 5 & 6

CIES 2026 Keynote Address: Peace Education in Precarious Times

Rita Z. Nazeer-Ikeda, Waseda University, Chair
Monisha Bajaj, University of San Francisco, Plenary Speaker
Kazuo Kuroda, Waseda University

Monday, March 30

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

6th Floor, Nob Hill 4&5

Taiwan Otherwise: Reimagining Gender, Peace, Indigeneity, and Decolonization in Education

Sean Jung-Hau Chen, University of Maryland, College Park, Chair

Mu-Yen Chan

Pin-Ru Su, University of Arizona

Ting-Yen Ho, University of Arizona

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

4th Floor, Union Square 5&6

Youth Empowerment, Transformative Education, and Social Movements

Virginia C. Gomes, University of Maryland, College Park, Chair

Sofia Antonia Gomez-Doyle, New York University

Claire Okatch

Alejandro Gutierrez

Giuseppe Lipari, Scuola Normale Superiore

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Human Capital: A Brilliant Idea or An Ideological Dead End? (Steve vs. Steve)

Dana Burde, New York University, Moderator

Stephen P Heyneman, Comparative-Education.com

Steven Klees, University of Maryland

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM

6th Floor, Nob Hill 2&3

Business Meeting 21st Century Educational Alternatives: Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crisis SIG

Frank Adamson, California State University, Sacramento, Chair

Virginia C. Gomes, University of Maryland, College Park, Chair

Carol Anne Spreen, New York University

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM

Ballroom Level, Continental
Ballroom 4, 5 & 6

Presidential Invited Symposium: Educating and Organizing for Peace and Justice: Lessons from Decades of Activism in the Bay Area and Beyond

Monisha Bajaj, University of San Francisco, Chair

Amy M Argenal, University of California, Santa Cruz, Chair

Joe Artiga

Deborah Lee

Margo Okazawa-Rey

Happy Hour

Multi-SIG Social Event: 21st Century Educational Alternatives: Confronting Racial Capitalism, Patriarchy, Militarism, and the Climate Crisis; Globalization & Education; Study Abroad and International Students (flyer attached)

Tuesday, March 31

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Black Panther Party Murals in West Oakland (flyer attached)

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Reparative Education: the politics and practice of repair

Ballroom Level, Franciscan B

Karishma Desai, Rutgers University, Chair
Krystal Strong, Rutgers University
R. Nanre Nafziger, McGill University
Amelia Simone Herbert, Barnard College, Columbia University
Tyler J Hook, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania
Rebecca Tarlau, Stanford University

**2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Positive Peace, Global Transformations, and U.S. Contestations:
Decolonial, Ecological, Economic, and Democratic Pathways in
Education (Part 1)**

Ballroom Level, Imperial B

Carol Anne Spreen, New York University, Chair
Frank Adamson, California State University, Sacramento
Rezan Benatar, Independent Scholar
Michael Gibbons, The Alternatives Project
Steven Klees, University of Maryland

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM Climate Resilience, Agroecology, and Environmental Justice

Ballroom Level, Continental 9

Gareth Alexis Brinkworth, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, Chair
Ana Ligia Scachetti, Nova Escola Association
Zahid Majeed, Allama Iqbal Open University
Nils McCune, Institute for Agroecology at the University of Vermont
Rebecca Tarlau, Stanford University

**4:30 PM - 5:45 PM Positive Peace, Global Transformations, and U.S. Contestations:
Decolonial, Ecological, Economic, and Democratic Pathways in
Education (Part 2)**

Ballroom Level, Imperial B

Rezan Benatar, Independent Scholar, Chair
Frank Adamson, California State University, Sacramento
Michael Gibbons, The Alternatives Project
Carol Anne Spreen, New York University
Anthony Lewis Wagner, New York University
Shannon Barnes, California State University, Sacramento
Yaereem Lee, Penn State University
Brittany Aronson
Haniyeh Kheirkhah

Wednesday, April 1

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Ballroom Level, Imperial A

Symposium N°3: Peace is not Neutral: Comparative Education in Times of Accelerated Militarism

Michael Gibbons, American University, Chair
Maria Hantzopoulos, Vassar College
Carol Anne Spreen, New York University
Roozbeh Shirazi, University of Minnesota
Ahmad Medadi, University College of London
Shiva Amelirad, Official Representative of CCITTA, the Coordinating Council of the Iranian Teacher Trade Association

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Lobby Level, Golden Gate 3

Decoloniality, Activism, and Resistance in Education Systems

Erik O'neil Elshire, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chair
Jordan Corson, Stockton University
Birgul Kutun, University of Sussex
Diana Morea-Ghergu, Columbia University Teachers College

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Ballroom Level, Franciscan B

The climate crisis and learning and development: some global perspectives

Jennifer H Adams, Johns Hopkins University, School of Education, Chair
Rehana Odendaal, GSE, University of Pennsylvania
Nazar Khalid, University of Pennsylvania
Emily Hannum, University of Pennsylvania
Jere Richard Behrman, University of Pennsylvania
Amrit Thapa, University of Pennsylvania
Tingting Yang Rui, University of Pennsylvania
Minghong Shen
Michael MA
Jia Miao, NYU Shanghai
Yabo Vidogbena, University of Pennsylvania
Wendy Chan

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM
Ballroom Level, Continental 8

Reimagining and restoring: Confronting structural violences and their legacies in education

Connor Middleton, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, Chair
Sohane Inès Mousseid Yahya
Shahnaaz Khan, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
María Fernanda Rodríguez, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

Wednesday, April 1

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

4th Floor, Union Square 22

Global Governance, Transformative Relations, and Human Rights in Education

Susan Lee Robertson, The University of Manchester, Chair

Mark Ginsburg, University of Maryland

René Espinoza Kissell, University of California, Santa Cruz

Visit us at The Alternatives Project table in the Exhibit Hall throughout the conference