



The Minister of Education

Rome, April 24th 2020

Dear Mrs Bakker,

Thank you for your appeal to ensure continuity of education for persons under correctional control. The COVID-19 threat for education is a unique one as it has brought upon all schools and learners an unprecedented disruption of everyday life. It has shuffled priorities, posing challenges that require swift and coordinated action plans to keep people safe, while ensuring regular access to education and social services for all.

The Italian Government has progressively adopted regulations aimed at containing the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, temporarily suspending in-presence didactic in all educational institutions and relying mainly on on-line distance learning or other means of communications like dedicated television programs for all level of education, in order to ensure continuity in Education. Special attention has been dedicated to vulnerable school populations in respect of the principle that no one must be left behind.

I want to reassure you that the same policy has been applied - to the extent possible - with regards to existing education programmes for adult and minor persons under correctional control.

In fact, based on the existing agreement with the Ministry of Justice, soon after the Covid 19 outbreak, the competent department of the Minister of Education has recommended whenever possible the activation - during the emergency - of distance learning solutions upon authorization of Directors of correctional facilities with the aim to ensure the continuity of education and training programs, especially for minors in juvenile detention.

I wish to express my gratitude for the contribution EPEA is giving to make the world a better place.

Yours sincerely,

(Lucia Azzolina)

Mrs Annet Bakker
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