



**PINS Talks:**

# Educational inclusion as a human rights issue

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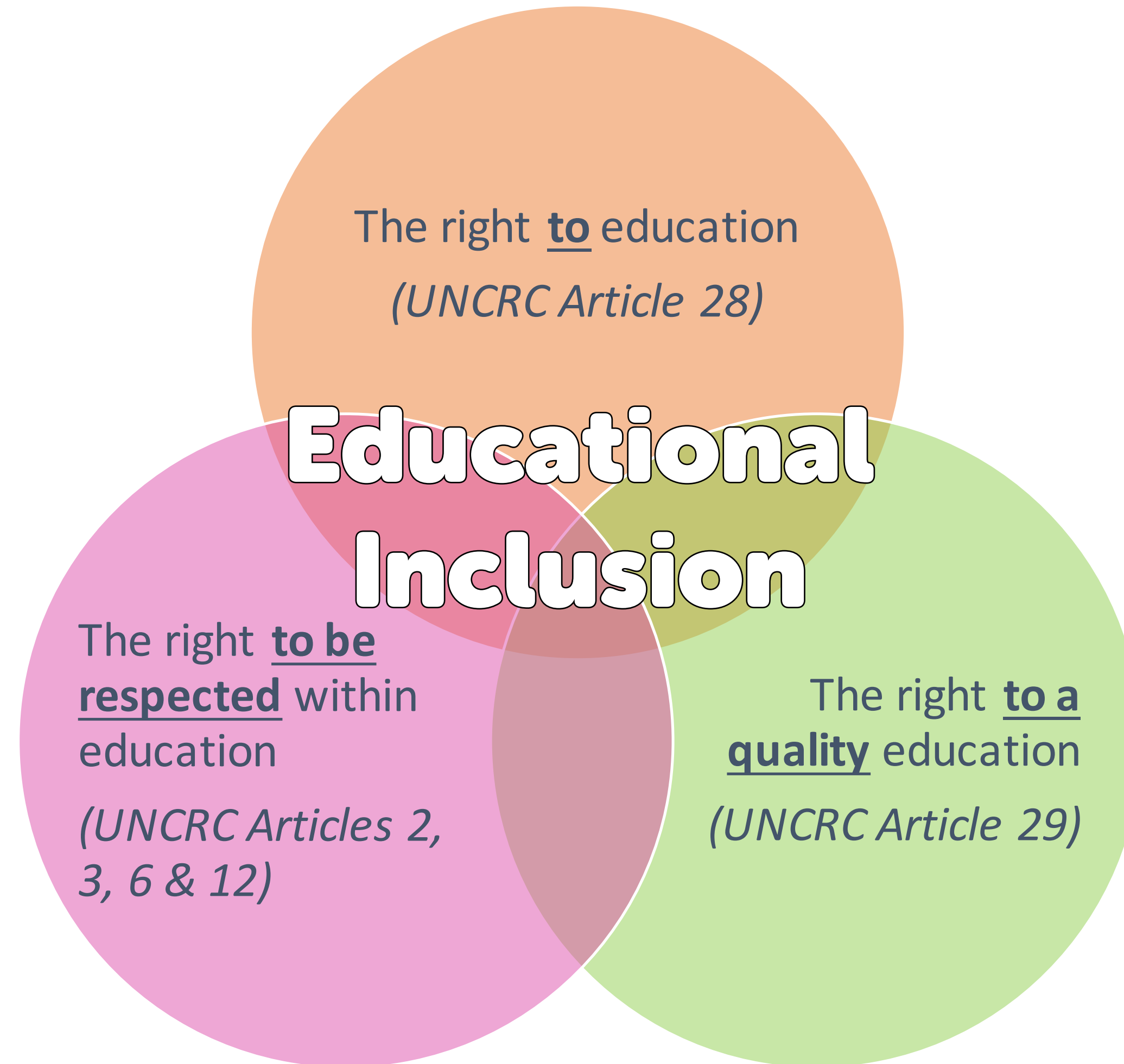


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- **Why is educational inclusion a human rights issue?**
- **What does the UNCRC say about educational inclusion?**
- **What's the situation in Scotland now?**
- **What more needs to be done?**



## UN Committee comments on inclusive Education:



“Discrimination [...], whether it is overt or hidden, **offends the human dignity** of the child and is capable of **undermining or even destroying the capacity** of the child to benefit from educational opportunities”.

**General Comment  
No. 1 on the aims of  
education (2001)**



## UN Committee comments on inclusive Education:

“... inclusive education is a set of values, principles and practices that seeks meaningful, effective, and quality education for all students, that does justice to the diversity of learning conditions and requirements not only of children with disabilities, but for all students. This goal can be achieved by different organizational means which respect the diversity of children.”

**General Comment No. 9 on  
the rights of children with  
disabilities (2006)**



**Together**

**State of Children's Rights  
Report 2016**

Available from:  
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## Recommendations made to the UK by the UN Committee in 2016:



- **Set up comprehensive measures to further develop inclusive education, ensure that inclusive education is given priority over the placement of children in specialized institutions and classes and make mainstream schools fully accessible to children with disabilities.**
- **Enhance its efforts to reduce the effects of the social background or disabilities of children on their achievement in school and to guarantee the right of all children to a truly inclusive education in all parts of the State party, including for newcomer children without experiences of formal education.**
- **Allocate sufficient human, technical and financial resources for the development and expansion of early childhood care and education, based on a comprehensive and holistic policy of early childhood development, with special attention to the children in the most vulnerable situations.**





## Where are we now...

- **The achievement gap between the poorest 20% of pupils and the wealthiest 20% widened sharply in 2015.**
- **Children with disabilities and additional support needs are disproportionately subjected to informal exclusions.**
- **14% of care experienced young people leave school with no qualifications at all, compared to only 2% of all school leavers.**





## ...and what action is being taken?

- **Extending the funding available through the Scottish Attainment Challenge to £750m over the next 5 years.**
- **Reviewing the guidance available to education authorities on the mainstreaming duty to take account of recent legislation changes and policy developments.**



**“...the move towards inclusion is not simply a technical or organisational change but also a movement with a clear philosophy. In order for inclusion to be implemented effectively, [there is a] need to define a set of inclusive principles together with practical ideas to guide the transition towards policies addressing inclusion in education. The principles of inclusion that are set out in various international declarations can be used as a foundation.”**

**UNESCO Guidelines for inclusion: Ensuring Access to Education for All, 2005**



## Key human rights principles for inclusive education

Access to education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• available for, accessible to and inclusive of all children.</li></ul>
Quality of education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• relevant and embrace a broad curriculum, and be appropriately resourced and monitored.</li></ul>
Respect in education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided in a way that is consistent with human rights, including <b>equal respect</b> for every child, <b>opportunities for meaningful participation</b>, <b>freedom from all forms of violence</b>, and <b>respect for language, culture and religion</b>.</li></ul>



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# **PINS Talks**

## **Pupil Inclusion Network Scotland**

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