



**ECNAIS**

EMIE Policy Event on Pathways to school success

Independent Education in Europe

27 April 2022

**Education offered by  
civil society – a  
cornerstone of  
democracy and  
freedom**

Good marks are important, but its not about good marks

21<sup>st</sup> century skills are important, but its not about skills

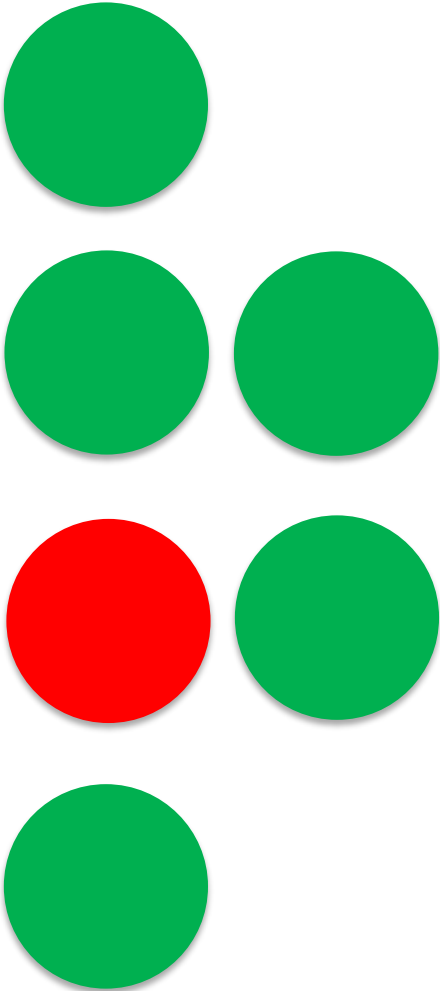
Efficiency is important, but its not about efficiency

Its about personal development, freedom and civic participation



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“the fundamental theory of liberty upon which all governments in this Union repose excludes any general power of the State to standardize its children by forcing them to accept instruction from public teachers only. The child is not the mere creature of the State; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations.”

US Supreme Court - *Pierce v. Society of Sisters* (1925)

## Czech Republic

M: english teacher – enlisted by force to a foreign army – lived and worked where the Government decided – upon fall of the wall, founded an independent School

## Ukrain

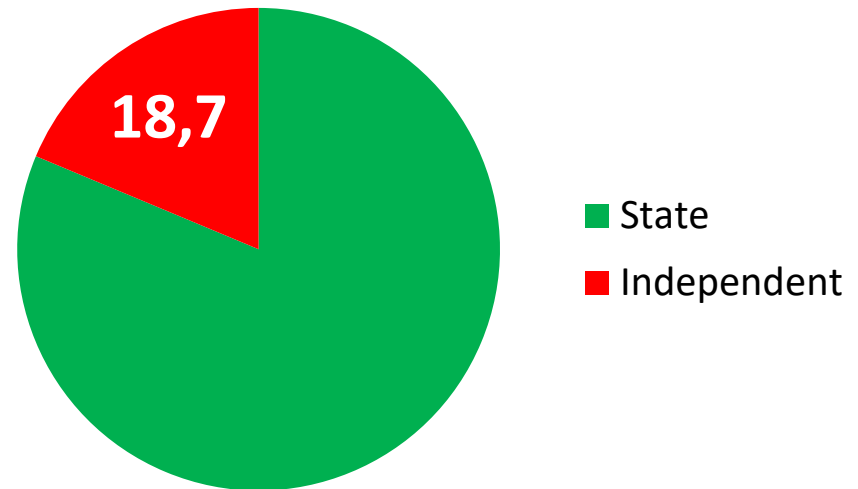
O: her family was killed by the soviet army in her presence – became a teacher – lived and worked where the Government decided – upon liberation founded an independent school

*“I was educated by the State`s school to not think, just obey. Founding a school to teach children to think for themselves, to be fair and free was a moral imperitiv. And I believe it is the only way to keep my country free” (Kiev, 2018)*

# Independent Education in Europe

- Students in independent schools a very big minority (20 million - 18,7%);
- 50% funded by the State – the others pay tuition though they are in *compulsory* education;
- In most States, the independent school sector is leading innovation.

**107.961.287 students**  
(pre-school - upper secondary)



# The role of independent schools in the European Education Area



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**Value based** approach as a *raison d`etre*

**Diversity** and mutual recognition as a necessity

**Innovation** as a trademark

“the arrangements for the provision of schooling tell us about how each country conceives the **role of the State and Society in Educating the young** and thus in shaping the future.” Glenn, 2011



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**Thank you**

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