



# 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



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for our SIG



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[www.thealternativesproject.org](http://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”**

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**

10:00 AM - 1:15 PM

**Radical South Asian History Walking Tour (flyer attached)**

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**

**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 Srikantiah, 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

**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

**10:00 AM - 1:15 PM**

**Radical South Asian History Walking Tour (flyer attached)**

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**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

**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)**

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**Tuesday, March 31**

**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Black Panther Party Murals in West Oakland (flyer attached)**

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**Tuesday, March 31**

**2:45 PM - 4:00 PM**

Ballroom Level, Franciscan B

**Reparative Education: the politics and practice of repair**

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**

Ballroom Level, Imperial B

**Positive Peace, Global Transformations, and U.S. Contestations: Decolonial, Ecological, Economic, and Democratic Pathways in Education (Part 1)**

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**

Ballroom Level, Continental 9

**Climate Resilience, Agroecology, and Environmental Justice**

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**

Ballroom Level, Imperial B

**Positive Peace, Global Transformations, and U.S. Contestations: Decolonial, Ecological, Economic, and Democratic Pathways in Education (Part 2)**

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 Kutan, 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

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**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**