On 10 July 2019 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, NY, United States, the side event “Education for Global Citizenship” was held during the High-level Political Forum (HLPF). The HLPF on sustainable development in 2019 was convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and included the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum.

Report Submitted by Connie Sobon Sensor, Sigma United Nations Liaison

This event discussed Sustainable Development Goal #4 and its target of 4.7.

At this event, several panelists discussed the importance of instilling global citizenship into our educational system. The panel called for inclusion of student engagement in community and global affairs via formal education from pre-school through college to cultivate a feeling of collective responsibility and lifelong learning. Dr. Holly Shaw, representing International Council of Nurses, spoke on the importance of the nursing role to SDG 4 and 4.7, stating that nurses are poised to be lifelong educators and learners within the communities that they work in.

This event showcased many different ways individuals and groups are working to create consciousness around the need for global citizenship to achieve the SDGs. Nursing, which has a foundation in community health and well-being, can play an important role in promoting global citizenship through educational systems by highlighting global perspectives in all nursing curriculums.