

## Mini-COP: living a climate conference at school

### Belgium

[Climate Challenge @ school | Studio Globo](#)

#### DESCRIPTION

Mini-COP is an initiative carried out in Belgian schools that **allows students to participate in a “real” climate conference**. Through a role play, students **experience first-hand global interests concerning climate**.

**Students represent countries** that are part of one of the five major power blocs involved in negotiations on climate: the EU group, the Umbrella Group, OPEC countries, developing countries, and emerging countries. The countries **debate 3 resolutions: CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, food tax and global climate fund**. They try to reach a **common position that will be voted on with plenary vote**. The climate conference serves as the central component of an educational trajectory that includes: **a preparatory teacher training day, 2 to 4 classroom preparation sessions, and the conference itself (200 minutes)**. Extensive supporting materials are available.

The focus is on:

- Participants **understand what climate change is**;
- Participants **discover the causes and consequences** of climate change;
- Participants can **link various problems to climate change**;
- Participants **learn to debate**, experiencing how **agreements and compromises** are made;
- Participants work on **finding and formulating solutions to climate change**;
- Participants **question their own personal commitment**.

#### IMPACT

- **84,95%** of the students indicate that the activity has led to a **greater understanding** of the **current system**;
- **81,91%** of the students indicate that the activity has led to a **greater understanding** of **what steps are needed to achieve a sustainable and just world**;
- **70,21%** of the students indicate that the activity has led to a **greater belief** that **they can play a role in change**;
- **68,09%** of the students indicate that the activity has led to a **greater desire** to **set up or participate in actions**, at school or outside.