

## The Role of Education

The role of education is an epistemologically and societally debated concept. Historically, institutions have transformed from training people to learn new machinery towards training people to navigate a rapidly changing world. However often, the mechanisms of endowing education are static, interacting within a dynamic environment. This creates friction, harming the abilities and potential of students to be able to achieve success. The following presentation focuses on how the IB currently meets its obligations as an educational institution, and how it may improve to equip students for a better life.

Logically prior, to analyze the normative course of action, one must recognize a fundamental identification problem. The identification problem is defining, or at the very least, establishing a set of viable characteristics that the role of education should fulfill. This presentation identifies four; the transfer of knowledge, social empowerment, the framework of thought and the incentive to learn. These characteristics are discussed and weighed as to their importance and impact. Furthermore, within this normative framework, the IB is assessed in its accomplishment and relevance.

The presentation is from the perspective of a student; an IB Alumni currently studying Economics at the University of Rotterdam – and thus provides unique epistemic access on the role of education. Personal anecdotes vis-à-vis the thought process of someone who has undertaken the course and experienced its merits and demerits firsthand are crucial; since without results of an experiment, qualitative and quantitative, one cannot alter the theory and methods.

Ultimately, while the IB provides an incredible work ethic, aspiration for critical thinking and an interdisciplinary approach towards education; it significantly lacks a role for social empowerment, incentivizing learning, and specialization.



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Currently, he coaches the Slovenian National Team for 2024, the Dutch development team and holds an Oracy teaching position at Rotterdam International Secondary School. His aspirations include the optimization of transport logistics, health economics and policy economics.