

# What Is a Global Citizen?

 **Step:** One - Get Connected!

 **Time:** 30 min

 **Space and materials:**

- Room that allows moving and sitting in a circle;
- Printed definitions of a global citizen.

 **Description of the tool**

1. Print or copy the definitions of a global citizen (in the annex) and spread them in different parts of the room.
2. Ask the participants to go around individually, read all the definitions and stand next to the one they like the most. Collect a couple of opinions from people standing to different definitions.
3. Now ask the participants to go around again and stand next to the definition they feel applies to them personally the most. Collect a couple of opinions from people standing to different definitions.
4. Ask the people to sit in a circle for a short debriefing with exemplary questions:
  - If changed positions between the two rounds, why did you do that?
  - Were there definitions that were controversial to one another and which? How did you feel about it?
  - Are there people who don't consider themselves global citizens and why?
  - Is there something missing in all the definitions and what?
  - Are the definitions showing what global citizens are now or what we would like them to be? What's the difference and how can we overcome it?
  - What role does technology play in the life of the global citizens?
  - Would global citizenship be possible without technology and why? Were there global citizenship before the Internet and who? What is the difference?

 **Additional remarks**

If the group is into the topic, you can ask them to draft their own definition of a global citizen, using parts of the other definitions or their own words.

The exercise is universal and could be used regardless of the theme the learning process evolves around. However, additional debriefing questions could be addressed to the participants around a specific theme, similar to the last two questions above.

### Annex: Definitions of a Global Citizen

*'Global citizen is someone who identifies with being part of an emerging world community and whose actions contribute to building this community's values and practices'*

Ronald Israel in <http://www.kosmosjournal.org/article/what-does-it-mean-to-be-a-global-citizen/>

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*A person who places their identity with a 'global community' above their identity as a citizen of a particular nation or place. The idea is that one's identity transcends geography or political borders and that responsibilities or rights are or can be derived from membership in a broader class: 'humanity.'*

Wikipedia on [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global\\_citizenship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_citizenship)

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*Global citizens nurture personal respect and respect for others, wherever they live. They think deeply and critically about what is equitable and just, and what will minimise harm to our planet.*

Rephrase from <http://www.ideas-forum.org.uk/about-us/global-citizenship>

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*We don't see the global citizen as someone with no identity, but rather someone who has confidence and is proud of his culture and history - and... open to the modern world.*

Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned

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*Global citizen would be the one that acknowledges their benefits from being part of a global community but also recognises their responsibility towards it and acts on it.*

GlobaLab definition from <https://www.globalab.org/global-citizenship>