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EDUCATION Human Rights Education

[Home](#) [Contacts](#) [Print](#) [Send](#) [Subscribe](#)

[What is Human Rights Education ?](#)

[Human Rights Education at the Heart of Quality Education](#)

[Citizenship Education](#)

[UN-Decade for Human Rights Education](#)

[UNESCO's Strategy & Action](#)

[Development and monitoring of international normative instruments](#)

[Support for the development of regional and national capacities](#)

[Production of educational materials](#)

[Advocacy](#)

[Reinforcement of educational networks](#)

[Cooperation with partners](#)

What is Human Rights Education ?

"Everyone has the right to education... Education shall be directed to the full development of human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace." (art.26 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

Included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Art. 26.2), reiterated in other major international instruments, human rights education is an integral part of the right to education and has gained of late larger recognition as a human right



in itself. The knowledge of the rights and freedoms, of oneself as much as of the others, is considered as a fundamental tool to guarantee the respect of all rights for each and every person.

The concept underpinning human rights education is that education should not only aim at forming trained, professional workers, but also at contributing to the development of individuals who possess the skills to interact in a society. Human rights education, human rights into education aim at providing pupils and students with the abilities to accompany and produce societal changes. Education is seen as a way to empower people, improve their quality of life and increase their capacity to participate in the decision-making processes leading to social, cultural and economic policies.

Human rights education cannot be reduced to the simple introduction of human rights content in already overburdened curricula. It brings about a profound reform of education, which touches upon curriculum in-service and pre-service training, textbooks, methodology, classroom management, and the organisation of the education system at all levels.

Human rights education implies the learning and practice of human rights. A holistic approach to human rights education means that human rights are implemented at all levels of the education system, and that they are taught through both content transmission



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and experiences.

Therefore, human rights education should not only be theoretical but should also provide opportunities for young people to develop and practice the skills to respect human rights and citizenship through "school life", i.e. all aspects of school as a living, social environment with its collective rules, interpersonal conflicts, time and opportunities for co-operation, and through opportunities for spontaneous initiatives by the pupils outside the actual teaching activities.

Documents

❖ **Report by the Executive Board 's Temporary Group on Human Rights Education**

The report of the working group on human rights education lead to the resolution of the General Conference regarding the Overall Strategy on Human Rights Education- **More**

❖ **Synthesis of Reports by Member States in the context of the permanent system of reporting on education for peace, human rights and democracy, international understanding and tolerance, and report of the committee on conventions and recommendations thereon**

The synthesis of national reports (2001) is based on the analysis of replies to the questionnaire which was sent to all Member States. The information provided by the Member States refers specifically to the implementation of the Declaration and Integrated Framework of Action on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Democracy.- **More**

❖ **31 C/5**

Approved Programme and budget, 2002-2003- **More**

❖ **31 C/4: Medium-term Strategy, 2002-2007**

Contributing to peace and human development in an era of globalization through education, the sciences, culture and communication- **More**

❖ **Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme**

Le 10 décembre 1948, l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies a adopté et proclamé la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'Homme dont le texte exhaustif est présenté aux pages suivantes. A la suite de cet acte historique, l'Assemblée a appelé tous les Etats membres à diffuser la Déclaration.- **More**