

## 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

### PROPOSAL FOR ENGAGEMENT



#standup4humanrights

## Background

Born out of two World Wars, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is just as powerfully relevant as it was on its first day.

Drafted by representatives of diverse legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world, the Declaration sets out universal values and a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations. It establishes the equal dignity and worth of every person.

Thanks to the Declaration, and States' commitments to its principles, the dignity of millions has been uplifted and the foundation for a more just world has been laid. While its promise is yet to be fully realized, the very fact that it has stood the test of time is testament to the enduring universality of its perennial values.

To highlight what the Universal Declaration means for people in their everyday lives, **UN Human Rights launched a yearlong campaign** that will culminate in the actual occasion of the **Declaration's 70th anniversary celebration** on 10 December 2018.

### **ABOUT THE DECLARATION AND ITS DRAFTERS:**

- Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on **10 December 1948**.
- Drafted by a **diverse** group of people from Australia, Canada, Chile, China, France, Lebanon, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States, including:
  - **Eleanor Roosevelt** was the first chair of the United Nation's Commission on Human Rights;
  - **Chang Peng-Chun**, the Chinese playwright, philosopher and diplomat was vice-chair of the Commission;
  - Dr **Charles Malik**, the Lebanese academic, philosopher, and ethicist who, as rapporteur, played a vital role in shaping the ethical contents of the UDHR.
  - **Rene Cassin**, a jurist, judge, and advisor to Charles de Gaulle, played a major drafting role.
- The Declaration holds the **Guinness World Record** as the world's **most translated document**, in over 500 languages.

## 1. Objectives

The campaign has three core objectives:

- to **engage** a broad base of audiences the world over;
- to help **promote** understanding of how the Universal Declaration empowers us all;
- to encourage **further reflection** on the ways that each of us can stand up for rights, every day.

## 2. Key messages

The UDHR 70 campaign, which is a continuation of the **Stand up for someone's rights today** movement of 2017, looks to emphasize the following:

- **The UDHR empowers us all.**
- **Human rights are relevant for all of us, every day.**
- **Our shared humanity is rooted in these universal values.**
- **Equality, justice and freedom prevent violence and sustain peace.**
- **Whenever and wherever humanity's values are abandoned, we all are at greater risk.**
- **We need to stand up for our rights and those of others.**

See the full messages in the 6 UN languages [here](#).

### 3. Take action and #Standup4HumanRights

All of us can promote and defend human rights. We are calling on everyone, individuals as well as governments, companies, the civil society, the UN family and others to join us and make a difference. Here are some options to get you started.



**Promote:** Raise awareness of what the Declaration means in everyday life and show how it empowers us all.



**Engage:** Join us in expressing your commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights.



**Reflect:** Take stock of the state of human rights today and reflect how each of us can stand up for rights, every day.

Please visit [www.standup4humanrights.org](http://www.standup4humanrights.org) and learn more about ways to promote, engage and reflect on human rights.

- Campaign website – [www.standup4humanrights.org](http://www.standup4humanrights.org)
- [Downloadable 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo in 6 languages](#)
- Social media: [#standup4humanrights](#)



[facebook.com/unitednationshumanrights](https://facebook.com/unitednationshumanrights)



[twitter.com/unhumanrights](https://twitter.com/unhumanrights)



[instagram.com/unitednationshumanrights](https://instagram.com/unitednationshumanrights)

### 4. Overview of activities/events

The UDHR 70 campaign is an opportunity for all actors – in partnership with the UN Human Rights Office or on their own– to express, celebrate and encourage support for human rights.

You may wish to join forces with us by engaging around four categories of dates:

1. **Institutional dates**
2. **International Days related to Human Rights**
3. **Initiatives planned by Governments and multilateral organizations**
4. **Initiatives planned by partners, which include a UDHR focus.** This may be stand-alone events organised from scratch or, more generally, event already planned which are an occasion to mark the anniversary.

## Institutional Dates

26 February- 23 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Rights Council (37th)</li> <li>• Round table on the UDHR on the occasion of the High Level Segment</li> <li>• Side events/animation</li> </ul>
18 June -6 July	Human Rights Council (38th session)
25 June	25th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action
10-28 September	Human Rights Council (39th session)
Fall	UN GA High-level plenary meeting of the GA on the 20th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders
9 December	20th anniversary of the UN Declaration on UN Human Rights Defenders
10 December	Anniversary Date / Human Rights Prize

## International Days related to Human Rights

27 January	International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust
8 March	International Women's Day
21 March	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
24 March	International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
6 April	International Day sport for development
7 April	World Health Day
17 May	International Day against Homophobia
13 June	International Albinism Awareness Day
20 June	World Refugee Day
26 June	International Day in support of Victims of Torture
18 July	Nelson Mandela International Day
30 July	World Day against Trafficking in Persons
9 August	The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
12 August	International Youth Day
15 September	The International Day of Democracy
21 September	International Day of Peace
30 September	International Translation Day
1 October	International Day of Older Persons
10 October	World Day Against the Death Penalty
2 November	International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists
19 November	Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims
2 December	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
5 December	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development
9 December	International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime
10 December	Human Rights Day
18 December	International Migrants Day

**Note: The UN Human Rights Office will create content for each of these dates, please get in touch with [udhr70@ohchr.org](mailto:udhr70@ohchr.org) if you would like to partner on any of these occasions or just spread our messages.**

## Events organized by Governments and multilateral organizations

28 January	Side event on the margins of the 30 <sup>th</sup> African Union Summit with the President of Ghana - 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UDHR / Ratification of the Maputo Protocol (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
5-12 February	High Commissioner visit to Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Fiji
20-22 April	High Commissioner participation at a panel during the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Spring meetings (Washington DC, USA)

## Events organized by partners with a UDHR focus

23-26 January	Davos Forum (Davos, Switzerland)
24-26 January	Students United Nations (SUN) - General Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland)
6 February	Pyeongchang Olympics 'Talk' Concert on the SDG and the UDHR (
3 February	Festival Antigél "Occupied Geneva"- Artist creating an outside piece of arts on Gender Equality (Geneva, Switzerland)
21-23 February	Global Alliance of the National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) (Geneva, Switzerland)
9 March	International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights with an opening by the High Commissioner (Geneva, Switzerland)
8-18 March	Geneva Motor Show - Road safety and the UDHR (Geneva, Switzerland)
26 March	Geneva Declaration on the preservation of patrimony (Geneva, Switzerland)
13 April	Colloque at the French Cour de Cassation on UDHR70 (Paris, France)
20 April	Fondation Eduki – Human Rights award (Geneva, Switzerland)
21 April	UEFA Solidarity Match (Geneva, Switzerland)
25-29 April	Geneva Book Fair (Geneva, Switzerland)
1 May-4 June	Exhibition at the Geneva Airport (Geneva, Switzerland)
3 May	Launch of the UDHR stamp sheet, International Briefmarken-Messe Stamp show (Essen, Germany)
22-23 May	Celebration of the 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action (Vienna, Austria)
24-27 May	Special Olympics in Switzerland
5-6 June	European Development Days
16 June	Open Day at Palais Wilson followed by a concert with the Nippon Music Foundation (Geneva, Switzerland)
June	UNA-USA Leadership Summit (Washington DC, USA)
2-13 July	UN Geneva 56 <sup>th</sup> Graduate Study Programme (Geneva, Switzerland)
16-22 July	Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition (Geneva, Switzerland)
1-11 August	Locarno Festival with the attendance of the Deputy High Commissioner (Locarno, Switzerland)
5 October	Global call for musical event (Italy)
5-6 October	Olympism in Action Forum (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
10 October	Launch of the Spirou special edition focused on UDHR
10-12 October	Global Alliance of the National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) International conference (Marrakech, Morocco)
17 October	High Note Music Prize (London, UK)

October	Human Rights Week (Geneva, Switzerland)
October	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) AGM (Geneva, Switzerland)
3 November	UN Orchestra concert at the Victoria Hall (Geneva, Switzerland)
November	Gala event on Global Women in Music for Human Rights with the Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica (Rome, Italy)
10 December	UN Association event at the Grand Place (Brussels, Belgium)

***Note: This list is being updated on an ongoing basis and does not show the various initiatives at local level in the 60+ countries where the UN Human Rights has a presence.***

