

70th Anniversary Celebration for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Campaign overview



#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 and learn more about ways to promote, engage and reflect on human rights.

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



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