

Human Rights Day 2011



This year has been remarkable for human rights activism. It was a year when thousands of people, inspired by the values enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, found their voice, demanded their basic rights and achieved social change.

Under the theme “Celebrate Human Rights”, Human Rights Day events this year seek to recognise the role of ordinary men and women in driving social change, and to encourage others to get involved in the global human rights movement. A social media campaign built around the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been launched in this regard (see attached note).

Events in New York

1. Global Conversation on Human Rights

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, will answer questions from social media users on 9 December from 9:30am to 10:30am New York time. The event can be watched live on Facebook (www.facebook.com/unitednationshumanrights) and on the UN Website (www.un.org/webcast) in Arabic, Chinese and English. The moderator of the event is Abderrahim Foukara from Al Jazeera television. Questions may be sent via Twitter using the hash tag #AskRights or posted on the events section of the UN’s Human Rights Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/events/184207984999448/>

2. Celebrate Human Rights “Birthday” Event

A special morning tea event to celebrate the “birthday” of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be held in the Delegates Dining Room (Secretariat Building) at the United Nations in New York on 9 December 2011, from 10.30am. Representatives of Member States, UN system organizations, civil society and the media are invited. Kindly confirm your participation to vasic@un.org

3. Press Conference

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, will address a press conference at the United Nations in New York starting at 12 noon on 9 December 2011. Watch the live webcast at www.un.org/webcast

Events in Geneva

1. Media Launch of the Social Media Campaign

On 1 December 2011, at 3pm Geneva time, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, will launch the social media campaign developed with the pro bono support of Lowe and Partners, a global advertising agency. The press conference will be webcast live on the UN Website (www.un.org/webcast).

2. Panel Discussion on Social Media and Human Rights

The Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Kung-wha Kang, will moderate an event in Geneva on 9 December from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, which will examine the transformational role of social media. Panellists include bloggers from Egypt, Mexico, Tunisia and Uganda. The event can be watched live on the UN Website (www.un.org/webcast).

More Information

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- un.org/events/humanrights/
- ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Day2011/Pages/HRD2011.aspx
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