

# The 2nd Human Rights Youth Challenge: Human rights to water and sanitation in spheres of life beyond the household

For World Water Day 2019: Leaving no one behind (22 March 2019), the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr. Léo Heller, together with the Permanent Mission of Spain, the Permanent Mission of Germany, UN-Water, UNESCO-IHP, and OHCHR, is organizing a second online challenge to raise awareness among the youth about the human rights to water and sanitation.

## 1. What is The Human Rights Youth Challenge?

The Challenge: Show your knowledge, understanding and passion about the human rights to water and sanitation by creating an original content about the human rights to water and sanitation and upload it to a social media network (Instagram, YouTube, Facebook or Twitter).

## 2. What is the theme for the 2nd Human Rights Youth Challenge?

"Train stations, public squares, parks, everywhere. Water and sanitation is a human right. To ensure everyone has access to toilets and water by 2030, we need to ensure everywhere provides them."

The human rights to water and sanitation require that water and sanitation services must be physically accessible for everyone within or in the immediate vicinity of all spheres of their lives, particularly at home, but also in other spaces. These include places where people spend a significant part of their time or are occasionally impelled to go, such as the workplace, educational institutions, health centres and public spaces as well as those places of residence that

are not strictly characterized as homes, such as prisons, public places (for homeless) and certain workplaces and dormitories in schools. While efforts have been observed on improving access to water and sanitation services in households, health centres and educational facilities, access to those services in some other spheres of people's lives are clearly lagging behind.

Many people spend a large part of their time outside the home, either at work or in commute. Sometimes, the public space is the work area for some people such as street vendors and informal transportation drivers. In other situations, the place of residence is not their own households but provided by a third party such as prisons and certain housing provided by employers. All of these situations affect the universal enjoyment of the human rights to water and sanitation and the achievement not only of Goal 6.1 and 6.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, but also SDG 3, related to health and well-being; SDG 8 referring to decent work for all; and SDG 11, related to safe and sustainable cities.

The Special Rapporteur will focus on one of his 2019 thematic reports on the subject of the human rights to water and sanitation in public spaces.

## 3. Who is eligible to participate?

All persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years, as of 22 March 2019.

## 4. How to win The Human Rights Youth Challenge?

The UN Special Rapporteur will look for content/ submission that demonstrates a good understanding



of the human rights to water and sanitation and that clearly expresses what the human rights to water and sanitation mean to youth.

## 5. How to participate in The Human Rights Youth Challenge?

- Share your content/submission via social media channels where the UN Special Rapporteur has accounts (@UNSRwatsan on Instagram, @SRwatsan on Facebook and Twitter).
- Mark the content/submission by including the hashtag #Youth4watsan and tagging the Special Rapporteur's account.
- Upload your content/submission directly to one of these social media channels or share a link to your content on any other platforms.
- Multiple submissions are welcome.

## 6. What is the format of the submission?

It can be any format in digital form ranging from a photo, audio, video, text and combination thereof. There is no limitation on the size or time as long as you can upload it on social media.

Multiple submissions are accepted.

## 7. How will the winner be selected?

Winner will be selected based on two criteria without an order of priority. First, demonstration of understanding of the human rights to water and sanitation in spheres of life beyond household and second, creativity and attractiveness of the content/submission.

## 8. When is the deadline? When will the winner be announced?

- **Deadline for submissions: 28 February 2019 (COB Geneva time)**

The 2nd Youth Challenge is made possible through the financial support of the Government of Spain and the Government of Germany

- **Announcement of the winner: World Water Day (22 March 2019).**

## 9. What will be the prize?

The UN Special Rapporteur will invite the winner to travel to Geneva, Switzerland and to speak at a side-event of the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council in September 2019 organized by him. In a youth panel together with the last year's Youth Challenge winner, Asniya Mohamad, the 2nd Youth Challenge winner will address the Geneva-based UN community, introducing the submission created for the challenge and/or speaking about the situation of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation of his or her country.

The travel cost will be covered.

The dates for travelling to Geneva: TBC 6 or 7 September 2019

## 10. Don't forget this important information (disclaimer):

If the selected winner is under-aged, he or she shall be accompanied by a legal guardian.

Application for visa and insurance coverage will be the responsibility of the selected winner.

## 11. For any questions:

Please contact the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation at: [rwatsan@ohchr.org](mailto:rwatsan@ohchr.org) or through any social media accounts.

## 12. Some hints that can be useful:

Browse through the publications found [here](#) and follow the UN Special Rapporteur's social media accounts for further hints.