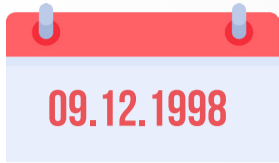




DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms



DATE OF **ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION**

ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS BY THE **UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



WHO ARE THE DEFENDERS ?



Ordinary men and women who act for the respect of human rights, for instance freedom of expression, the rights of women, of indigenous peoples or gay, lesbian, transgender and intersex people. They can act alone or in organisations.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ?

- Circulate information on the Declaration on human rights defenders
- Contribute to the recognition of the work of human rights defenders
- Support the organisations who help and protect human rights defenders
- Act for defenders at risk
- Be a human rights defender! Everyone has the right, and the responsibility, to promote and defend human rights



WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE DECLARATION ?

The Declaration is based on, consolidates and reflects binding international law relevant to the promotion, protection and defence of human rights

RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS ACCORDED TO HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

<p>TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS IN THEIR COUNTRIES AND GLOBALLY</p>	<p>DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS ALONE OR WITH OTHERS</p>	<p>TO FORM ASSOCIATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS</p>	<p>TO MEET OR ASSEMBLE PEACEFULLY</p>	<p>TO SEEK, OBTAIN, RECEIVE AND HOLD INFORMATION RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO DEVELOP AND DISCUSS NEW HUMAN RIGHTS IDEAS AND PRINCIPLES AND TO ADVOCATE THEIR ACCEPTANCE</p>
<p>TO SUBMIT TO THE AUTHORITIES CRITICISM AND PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THEIR FUNCTIONING AND TO ALERT THEM ON ANY THREAT ON THE REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO MAKE COMPLAINTS ABOUT OFFICIAL POLICIES AND ACTS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO HAVE SUCH COMPLAINTS REVIEWED</p>	<p>TO OFFER AND PROVIDE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED LEGAL ASSISTANCE OR OTHER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN DEFENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO ATTEND PUBLIC HEARINGS, PROCEEDINGS AND TRIALS TO ASSESS THEIR COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS</p>	<p>TO COMMUNICATE WITHOUT ANY RESTRICTION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS</p>	<p>TO BENEFIT FROM AN EFFECTIVE REMEDY</p>
<p>TO THE LAWFUL EXERCISE OF THE OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER</p>	<p>TO EFFECTIVE PROTECTION UNDER NATIONAL LAW WHEN PEACEFULLY ACTING AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS</p>	<p>TO SOLICIT, RECEIVE AND UTILIZE RESOURCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>ARTICLES 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 AND 13</p>		

THE DUTIES OF STATES

<p>TO PROTECT, PROMOTE AND IMPLEMENT ALL HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO ENSURE THAT ALL PERSONS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION ARE ABLE TO ENJOY ALL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS</p>	<p>TO ADOPT SUCH LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER STEPS TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS</p>	<p>TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR PERSONS WHO CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF A HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION</p>	<p>TO CONDUCT PROMPT AND IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF EVERYONE AGAINST ANY VIOLENCE, THREATS, RETALIATION, ADVERSE DISCRIMINATION, PRESSURE OR ANY OTHER ARBITRARY ACTION AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS WORK</p>
<p>ARTICLES 2, 9, 12, 14 AND 15</p>			<p>TO PROMOTE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF CIVIL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS</p>	<p>TO ENSURE AND SUPPORT THE CREATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS</p>	<p>TO PROMOTE AND FACILITATE THE TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT ALL LEVELS OF FORMAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING</p>

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EVERYONE

<p>TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS, TO SAFEGUARD DEMOCRACY AND ITS INSTITUTIONS AND NOT TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OTHERS</p>	<p>PERSONS EXERCISING PROFESSIONS THAT CAN AFFECT THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OTHERS, IN PARTICULAR POLICE OFFICERS, LAWYERS, JUDGES, ETC HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY IN PROTECTING THESE RIGHTS</p>	<p>ARTICLES 10, 11 AND 18</p>
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For more information : www.protecting-defenders.org