

Progetto  
Interdisciplinare  
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HUMAN RIGHTS

# The United Nations and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- The **United Nations** is an international organization that was created in 1945, as World War II was about to end. Its initial aim was to prevent another war from happening. Now, more than 75 years later, the UN is still working to give everyone what they need to have a good life: food, shelter, medicine, a clean environment, dignity and safety.
- In 1948 a special United Nations commission, headed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt – the wife of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt - wrote a special document which stated the rights that all people should have. On 10th December 1948 the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)** was adopted as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RR4VXNX3jA&t=362s>



# The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an international document that states the **basic rights and freedoms all humans should have** everywhere in the world.

It consists of a **Preamble** and **30 Articles**.

Article 1 - All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights

Art. 3 - Right to life, liberty and security

Art. 4 – No one shall be held in slavery or servitude

Art. 18 – Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Art. 19 – Freedom of opinion and expression

Art. 26 – Right to education

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RR4VXNX3jA&t=362s> (min. 1:54)

# Categories of Human Rights

**Civil** – the right to be treated as an equal to anyone else in society

**Political** – the right to vote, to freedom of speech and to obtain information

**Economic** – the right to participate in an economy that benefits all; the right to desirable work

**Social** – the right to education, health care, food, clothing, shelter and social security

**Cultural** – the right to freedom of religion and to speak the language and to practice the culture of one's choice

# Key Information

- Studying and knowing our human rights is as important today as it was after World War II. This is because when people don't know their natural rights things such as injustice, discrimination, intolerance and slavery can happen.
- The more aware people are to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the closer we get to a peaceful, free and fair world.

# Fun Facts

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is now available in more than 500 languages and in 1999 set the world record for being the most translated document in the world.
- The 10th December – the day in which the declaration was adopted – is celebrated each year as Human Rights Day.



# UDHR: Key words (1)

## **UNIVERSAL**

means that is something related to «all the people in the world».

## **DECLARATION**

is a formal announcement.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

are the rights that each person has simply because they are human.

They are a fundamental part of society; they make sure that we are all treated with the same level of equality, dignity and respect. Without them, our lives would be completely different.

## UNDH: Key words (2)

**Achievement:** something very good and difficult that you have succeeded in doing

**Peoples:** ita. *popolazioni*

**To prevent:** to stop something from happening or someone from doing something



**Eleanor Roosevelt**

*Member, Drafting Committee  
on the Bill of Human Rights*

“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home — so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world.”

“Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighbourhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works.”

“Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination.”