Human Rights Centre

Promoting Human Rights Education
Overview of activities 2012-2017

Updated 10/2017
Introduction

What is Human Rights Education?

Education about human rights, which includes providing knowledge and understanding of human rights norms and principles, the values that underpin them and the mechanisms for their protection;

Education through human rights, which includes learning and teaching in a way that respects the rights of both educators and learners;

Education for human rights, which includes empowering persons to enjoy and exercise their rights and to respect and uphold the rights of others.

UN Declaration on Human Rights Education, article 2, para. 2
A/RES/66/137
Human Rights Centre’s mandate on HRE

According to the law, the Human Rights Centre’s (HRC) task is to:

Promote information provision, training, education and research on fundamental and human rights
Where we started from in late 2012

A national baseline study (NBS) on the implementation of human rights education and training in Finland was launched

Objective with the study:

- review legislation and national guidelines on human rights education and training.
- evaluate the teacher’s educator’s and trainer’s professional abilities on human rights education and training.
Key findings from national baseline study

1. Normative framework is solid ground for HRE

2. **HRE is not systematic** (depends on teacher’s interest)

3. HR’s are mostly taught only as values v. legal norms

4. Teacher’s education doesn’t include education on HR’s

5. Teaching HR’s to public servants is not sufficient
7 Recommendations emerged

1. Action plan on HRE
2. HRE included in all education and training
3. HRE should enhance HR respectful learning enviroment
4. Teachers HR knowledge and skills need to be strengthened
5. HR knowledge of public servants need to be ensured
6. HRE materials should be developed
7. HRE needs to be monitored, evaluated and developed
Activities and achievements 2013-2014

- National baseline study (NBS) on human rights education and training created and published
- Recommendations of the NBS promoted
- Short movie to be used in HRE created
- National curriculum under revision: statements!
- Suggestion to include human rights education to the Universal Periodic review in a statement to OHCHR
Activities and achievements in 2015

- Advise and support to governmental entities offered
- Statements on the importance of human rights education and training
- Lecture series designed & content created
- Partnerships to promote human rights education and training established
Activities and achievements in 2016

- **Lecture series published**: film & slides, nearly 10 hours of filmed material in Finnish and mostly in Swedish
- **Trainings, lectures, visits**
- **Advocacy and support to governmental entities to include HRE into national action plan on human rights (NAP) as a major themes**
- **Co-operation with NGO’s** working in HRE intensifies
Activities and achievements in 2017

- HRE stand in the Educa Fair
- Lecture series/parts watched 5000 times, lectures & visits, more expected as advertising continues
- **Inspections** to schools and regional authorities together with the Ombudsman’s office
- Coordinating HRE/NHRI workshop in ICHRE/Montreal
- HRE became a key thematic area in NAP
- Co-operation with universities intensified
Activities in 2018

- HRE stand in the Educa Fair again
- Lecture series promoted: additional pedagogical material and thematic content created
- Lectures and visits
- Training of 750 principles and educational directors
- Inspections together with the Ombudsman to closed institutions
This was and will be a joint effort!
Summary of national baseline study available in English

HRE materials in Finnish and Swedish available:
http://www.ihmisoikeuskeskus.fi/ihmisoikeuskoulutus

Should you need more information contact
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