

PORTUGAL

PLAN OF ACTION

**UNITED NATIONS DECADE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION**

Plan of Action - United Nations Decade for Human
Rights Education

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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

" (To be implemented between 1999-2004)

Estimated budget: PTE 130 000 000\$00 /year)

Lisbon

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PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Human rights education activities, developed within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, can be defined as the main axis for the work of the National Commission within the coming years. In this area, it is considered to be of fundamental importance the production of education materials for students and other recipients, as well as the development of human rights disseminating activities, such as seminars, work sheets, illustrated and commented texts, itinerant exhibitions, videos and theatre plays, records and permanent up-dating of the National Commission's official Internet site. The National Commission undertakes to organise, on each of the years covered by the present Plan of Action, a congress on human rights education.

The Commission shall also continue to publish the legislation which affects human rights, considering it to be of crucial strategic importance.

Within the Decade, the National Commission considers to be one of the most important areas its activity the dissemination of human rights information among the African Portuguese-speaking countries (PALOP) and East Timor, either directly or through the development of activities within communities from those territories residing in Portugal. In this field, apart from planning some travelling to those territories, the National Commission is organising a number of seminars and conferences, and publishing materials specially suited to the particular characteristics and problems of those societies.

A new approach to be considered by the National Commission, during the Decade, shall be evolving from a predominantly office work to an activity aimed at the direct contact with the target-populations. With this purpose, a number of actions are foreseen, especially at the school environment, which require the displacement of qualified professionals to perform promoting, awareness-raising and debating activities in the field of human rights.

The present Plan of Action, which contains the generic description of the activities to be developed within the period 1999-2004, shall be subject to annual executive plans, in which the activities to be performed that year shall be enumerated, discriminated and budgeted.

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I. MAIN INSTRUMENTS FOR DIFFUSING THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

1. Design and production of a multimedia publicity campaign on the importance of human rights and human rights education (short-film advertisement, written press, radio spots);
 2. Production of additional graphic supports (outdoors, posters, brochures, T-shirts, etc.);
 3. Formulation of various documentation kits aimed at ensuring the more adequate dissemination of human rights and the objectives of United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education among varying target groups (the mass media, municipalities, schools, etc.);
 4. Production videos regarding human rights;
 5. Publication of various works related to the UDHR and other human rights instruments, containing annotations on the various Articles;
 6. Establishment and up-dating of an official National Campaign site within the framework United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (www.gddc.pt/dh/decadadh);
 7. Establishment of an electronic mail address within the same site, so as to enable the exchange of information regarding the commemorations or the Decade (decadadh@gddc.pt);
 8. Definition of other forms of distribution of international legal instruments and doctrinal texts on human rights among potentially interested parties;
 9. Production, edition and distribution, in co-operation with the Portuguese Public Television (RTP), of the TV programme "Human Rights", in printed version and CD-ROM;
 10. Contact and exchange of views and experiences with parallel committees, established with the aim to commemorating the Decade in other countries;
 11. Publication of the plans of action and execution plans prepared by the Commission.
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II. ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF STATE ORGANS AND GOVERNMENTAL
AGENCIES

1. To stimulate the process of ratification of the various international human rights instruments which have not yet been ratified by Portugal;
 2. To promote the dissemination of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education among the various governmental agencies, so as to bring about an awareness raising among these services, as to the responsibilities which derive therefrom, for the exercise of their professional activities;
 3. To promote the due articulation of the Plan of Action with governmental activities which may serve to enrich it or assure its widespread dissemination;
 4. To promote studies on the Portuguese legal system and the protection of human rights;
 5. To promote a sociological study on the actual protection of human rights in Portugal;
 6. To promote studies on the progresses made and challenges for the future in the field of promoting and protecting the rights of the child;
 7. To maintain and develop a permanent interaction between departments of State and representatives of civil society (namely NGO's) in the area of human rights protection and its progressive improvement;
 8. To draft annual plans on human rights protection in Portugal, to be effected in collaboration with the various interested NGO's;
 9. Disclosure among the European Union countries of the National Commission's activities Programmes;
 10. Establishment of an award, to be granted by the Portuguese Parliament from 1999 onwards, to the best publication on human rights promotion;
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11. Launching of a public contest for the conception of a national monument evocative of human rights and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and establishment of a toponymic classification to be suggested to the Portuguese municipalities within their areas of competence.

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III. SEMINARS, CONGRESSES AND OTHER FORMS OF
DISCLOSURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

1. Seminar on the "Contribution of women towards the effective implementation of Human Rights", promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 2. Annual congress on "Human Rights Education";
 3. Congress on "Human Rights in the XXIst century", jointly promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Commission, to be held during the Portuguese presidency of the European Union;
 4. Seminar on human rights aimed at the Portuguese-speaking countries and East Timor;
 5. Development of professional training activities, with the collaboration of the National Administration Institute (INA) and the Centre for Studies and Municipal Training (CEFA), aimed at health professionals, police forces, the military and immigration officials;
 6. Series of Conferences on "Human Rights in the feminine", promoted by the Portuguese Association of Women Jurists;
 7. Series of conferences on "Public Prosecution and the 50th Anniversary of UDHR";
 8. Series of conferences, to be promoted by the Office of the Ombudsman, at the inner regions and Autonomous Regions;
 9. Information activities aimed at diffusing the role of the Ombudsman as a State organ empowered to secure human rights, in the African Portuguese-speaking countries;
 10. Photo exhibit on human rights, promoted by the Portuguese Parliament;
 11. Exhibits on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education at the libraries of the *Instituto do Livro e da Leitura* (Institute for Books and Reading), promoted by this Institute;
 12. Exhibit of illustrative materials used in the various activities designed to promote and disseminate Human Rights in Portugal;
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13. Presentation of show cases on the United Nations Decade on Human Rights Education, with information on the on-going or planned initiatives;
 14. Preparation of an itinerant exhibit on human rights, to be managed by the Institute for Educational Innovation and Regional Education Directions, comprising the establishment of a working group for the elaboration of the panels;
 15. Association of the National Commission to the commemorations of international humanitarian law promoted by the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Geneva, Switzerland.
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IV. ACTIVITIES TO BE DEVELOPED WITH LEARNING ESTABLISHMENTS

1. Dissemination of the main international texts on human rights, together with bibliographic references, existing web sites with information on human rights, suggestion of exploring activities for primary school and secondary school students, articles for teachers about on-going investigations regarding civic education, and interviews with different personalities;
 2. Elaboration of training kits on the rights of the child aimed at primary school teachers and students;
 3. Translation and adaptation of a learning file for teaching the rights of the child to primary and secondary school students, containing texts aimed at teachers and students:
 4. Continuation of the prize for the best work in the field of human rights within the framework of the newspaper competition "O Público at School";
 5. Preparation of a kit on human rights to be distributed to all the schools within the country (15 000), containing, namely:
 - Handbook titled "All human beings";
 - Poster "Universal Declaration of Human Rights";
 - Poster "Convention on the Rights of the Child";
 - List of organisations which develop activities in the field of human rights;
 - List of books on human rights;
 - List of movies related to the subject;
 - Publication titled "Introduction to Human Rights" (*Terramar*);
 - "The diary of Anne Frank";
 - Publication titled "Racism explained to youngsters", from Tahar Ben Jelloun (UNESCO prize);
 - Postcard disclosing web sites on human rights (e. g. National Commission and Institute for Educational Innovation).
 6. Remittance of information materials on human rights and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education to various schools;
 7. Establishment of a discussion forum with learning establishments via Internet on Human Rights issues, and connection of schools to sites on this issue:
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8. Launching of a competition on "Civic activity projects " for secondary school students, within the project Citizen-Administration Forum, to be developed by the Secondary School Department;
 9. Launching of a competition for study/research in the field of Human Rights in Portugal, open to students pursuing Degrees at the undergraduate, masters and doctoral levels;
 10. Text and drawing competition on human rights, including the publication of the best works in a book, itinerant exhibit and diffusion via Internet;
 11. Publication and distribution to all schools of the handbook on human rights education titled "All human beings", by UNESCO in co-operation with the Ministry of Education;
 12. Articles on the contribution of sports towards the promotion of human rights, to be published in an off-print to the newspaper "A Bola", dedicated to school sports;
 13. Launching of the Fair Play Prize for students participating in school sports;
 14. Distribution, by the Intercultural Secretariat, of 100 cartoon videotapes conceived by the Canadian National Office, with the Portuguese version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
 15. Encouraging schools, through the programme *Nónio século XXI*, to develop human rights and citizenship works, and awarding the best of such works (upon obtaining sponsorship);
 16. Creation of videos reflecting the best learning practices on human rights;
 17. Distribution of T-shirts and several other materials (p. e. Human Rights Album, calendars), on human rights, by the Intercultural Secretariat;
 18. General awareness-raising activities for schools, comprising activities related to human rights education, both at the level of the school curricula and within extra curricula activities, by means of, namely:
 - official document, distributed by the Regional Directions of Education (containing as an annex the Council of Ministers resolution which proclaims the Decade);
 - campaign comprising posters and other material.
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11. Party celebrating human rights aimed at youngsters, organised in discos and pubs in the Alcântara neighbourhood, promoted by the Alcântara parish municipal authority, with the support of the Oeiras Municipality and the co-operation of the university establishments of the area;
 12. Sponsorship of two *Planeta Maravilha* Shows for 2000 children, to be promoted by the National Commission on the Rights of the Child;
 13. Promotion of holiday activities for youngsters, relating to human rights issues, including games, conferences and interactive performances;
 14. Diffusion of the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law.
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VI. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN WITH LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

1. Distribution of information materials on the celebration of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education;
2. Supporting the promotion and sponsoring of local activities designed to celebrate events in the field of human rights;
3. Supporting the organisation of other events aimed at encouraging human rights promotion;
4. Defining ways of collaborating with the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (*Associação Nacional de Municípios Portugueses*) and the various local municipalities, to encourage future activities aimed at raising awareness for human rights issues;

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VII. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN WITH THE MASS MEDIA

1. Dissemination of instruments relative to the multimedia publicity campaign promoted by the Commission;
 2. Dissemination within the interested media channels (radio, television), of the short films related to the UDHR which the Commission has produced;
 3. Dissemination of material on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education among interested media channels (written press, radio, television, etc.);
 4. Establishment of an annual prize for the best presentations by media professionals of works related to human rights issues.
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VIII. WORKS PUBLISHED BY, IN COLLABORATION WITH, OR
UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF, THE NATIONAL COMMISSION

1. Publication of the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in various minority languages or dialects (namely for distribution among the different ethnic minorities residing in Portugal), by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 2. Publication of a technical-scientific work containing the analysis and comment of every constitutional disposition securing human rights, as well as all further norms which integrate constitutional regimes of fundamental rights in general, as well as rights, freedoms and guarantees, and economic, social and cultural rights; in particular;
 3. Publication of the text of the European Convention on Human Rights and the United Nations International Bill of Human Rights in *Braille* (for distribution among the blind community), by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 4. Publication of the text of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in *Braille* (for distribution among the blind community), by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 5. Translation and publication of handbooks on human rights education, among the following suggestions:
 - ABC, Teaching Human Rights (United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights);
 - First Steps: A Manual for Starting Human Rights Education (International Amnesty) - various volumes, in co-operation with the Portuguese section of AI;
 - Human Rights Here & Now (Human Rights USA);
 - Methodologies for human rights education (Richard Pierre Claude).
 6. Publication of the report presented by Portugal on the follow-up to the 1993 Vienna Declaration (Development of the human rights situation in Portugal, 1993-1998), by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 7. Publication of a thematic volume on racism and intolerance, by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
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8. Compilation and subsequent publication of an edition in Portuguese, containing the most important Conventions of the Council of Europe in various areas, published by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 9. Production of a video and publication of a brochure in Portuguese, featuring a "Practical guide for education in human rights" from the Council of Europe, by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General, in conjunction with the Institute for Educational Innovation, of the Ministry of Education;
 10. Publication of the Portuguese version of the Council of Europe's brochure regarding the activities of this international organisation in the field of human rights, by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 11. Translation and publication of the Implementation Handbook for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, produced by UNICEF in 1998;
 12. Publication of a brochure in Portuguese, on the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture of the Council of Europe, by the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 13. Publication of an edition containing Portuguese legislation pertaining to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, by CIVITAS - Association for the Defence and Promotion of Citizen's Rights (*Associação para a Defesa e Promoção dos Direitos dos Cidadãos*);
 14. Development of a study relating to the legislative progresses made in the last 10 years while implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and challenges that the Portuguese State still faces with the view to fully implement such Convention;
 15. Production and free distribution of a multimedia CD-ROM entitled "Against Racism for a Europe of Solidarity";
 16. Production of a video on Human Rights by Amnesty International;
 17. Publication of a Council of Europe brochure on NGO's and human rights;
 18. Publication of a Council of Europe brochure on the European Social Charter;
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19. Publication of a Council of Europe handbook for the training of police forces;
 20. Publication of a Citizen's Guide by the NGO forum for reflection on human rights issues, in co-operation with the Bureau of Documentation and Comparative Law of the Office of the Procurator General;
 21. Publication of materials suited to the problems of human rights education in the African Portuguese-speaking countries and East Timor;
 22. Publication of the Geneva Conventions, their Additional Protocols, Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines and Statute of the International Criminal Court;
 23. Translation and publication of a book on international humanitarian law;
 24. Translation and publication of the United Nations "Professional Training Series" (five volumes);
 25. Publication of the Programme and Report of Activities developed within the commemorations of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
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