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# WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?



**human rights**



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***What do you understand by the term human rights?***



## Key principles

Human Rights are:

Universal and equal

Inalienable (However most human rights can be limited – for example?)

- Indivisible, Interrelated and Interdependent



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# Key values

Key values that lie at the core of human rights:

*Human Dignity*

*Equality*

*Respect*

*Non-discrimination*

*Tolerance*



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# Law

Universal human rights are guaranteed by law:

- International law
- European law
- National law





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# UDHR

This is a United Nations document

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the first instrument that formally recognized human rights (1948)

*Why did this come about?*

*Why was the UN (1945) formed?*



United Nations



- # International Bill of Rights
- The UDHR (1948)
  - The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
  - The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)



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# European Instruments

**European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms** – It provides for civil and political rights. (Council of Europe)

Its implementation machinery is the European Court of Human Rights.



# What is the difference?

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COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE





# European Court of Human Rights

*Cases against your countries?*

# Generations of Human rights:

```
graph TD; A[Generations of Human rights:] --- B[1st Generation: Civil and Political Rights]; A --- C[2nd Generation: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights]; A --- D[3rd Generation: Collective Rights];
```

**1<sup>st</sup> Generation:**  
Civil and Political  
Rights

**2<sup>nd</sup> Generation:**  
Economic, Social  
and Cultural Rights

**3<sup>rd</sup> Generation:**  
Collective Rights



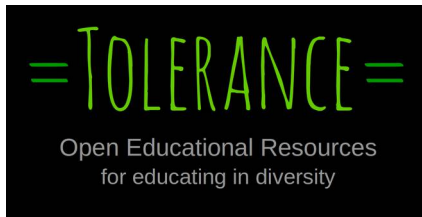
# Civil and Political Rights

**Civil rights** – minimal guarantees of physical and moral integrity. For example:

*The right to equality and liberty*

*The freedom to religion*

*The freedom from torture*



# Civil and Political Rights

**Political Rights** are necessary in order to participate in the life of the community. For example:

*The right to vote*

*The right to join political parties*

*The right to assembly*

*The right to have access to information*



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# Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

They are based on the ideas of equality and guaranteed access to essential social and economic goods, services and opportunities.



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# Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Social rights:** For example – the right to education, the right to health care,

**Economic rights:** For example – the right to work, the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to housing.

**Cultural rights:** For example – the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community,



# Collective Rights

These rights embrace collective rights of society or peoples





# Collective Rights

For example:

The right to sustainable development

The right to peace

The right to a healthy environment

Some experts object to the idea that collective rights are human rights.



## Other important instruments

- *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and Protocol Relating to the Status of **Refugees***
- *Convention on the Rights of the **Child** (CRC)*
- *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against **Women**(CEDAW)*
- *Convention on the Rights of Persons with **Disabilities** (CRPD)*
- *Convention Against **Torture** (CAT)*



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**ANY QUESTIONS?**



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