

Human Dignity and the Protection of Human Rights

The UNESCO Chair has conceptualized the following framework of action, which outlines its activities since its inception in 2002:

- Permanent Education-Cycle 2002 at the University of the Republic
- Publications in Human Rights.
- Documentation Centre in Human Rights.
- Calendar

In the Permanent Education Cycle 2002, the following academic sessions (lectures and themes of discussion) are provided:

May 29: Inauguration of the UNESCO Chair of Human Rights at the Universidad de la República

The Right to Education in the 21st Century. The work of UNESCO

June 10: International Criminal Court

Present situation in Uruguay and in the Region. The active start of the Rome Treaty. Consequences.

July 15: Review of the reports presented by Uruguay to international intergovernmental organizations.

Decisions adopted by these organizations in this connection.

August 19: Memory and truth. The right to know and the duty to remember. The historical memory. Political and legal consequences. Legislation of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

September 18: Death by abortion – Medical initiatives. The right to life. Constitutional and International Law. Penalty law. The woman. The foetus. The executer. The human and social problem.

October 21: Warranties for the protection of Human Rights. Defender of the People (Ombudsman). National and international initiatives.

November 18: Integral protection of the Rights of handicapped persons. Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of any kind of discrimination against handicapped persons. Validity and future impact.

December 10: Human Dignity. Closing of the 2002 Cycle. Delivery of acknowledgements.

Modalities of participation: The yearly cycle of the UNESCO Chair of Human Rights comprises 8 monthly academic sessions. They will be held in the 'Sala Maggiolo' of the University, at 7 pm. Persons interested in participating in the Cycle should send the inscription form including personal data before May 25, 2002. Participation in 80% of the sessions is required to obtain the acknowledgement of the yearly participation. *Foreigners* or persons living in the country-side may participate in a 'semi-presential' mode. Participation in 3 sessions is mandatory. Other sessions could be presented by E-mail. Attendance at the opening session of May 29, 2002, is mandatory. Attendance to the full 2002 Cycle of the UNESCO Chair's activities is free of charge. Travel and lodging expenses will be paid by each participant.

Publications

“Education on Human Rights: Challenges of the XXI Century”. Luis Pérez Aguirre
Document annexed: Declaration on Human Rights Education. México, December 2001

“The right to education”. Dr Prof. Héctor Gros Espiell; Ing. Prof. Jorge Brovotto
Document annexed: Education for all (Dakar Declaration)

“International Criminal Court”. Dr. Prof. Alejandro Artucio; Dr. Prof. Héctor Gros Espiell
Document annexed: Statute of the International Criminal Court

"The Right to Education" (Documents of the 'Dakar Forum: Education for all'). UNESCO Chair. Annex: Spanish version, translated by the Chair, of the "Declaration on the Contribution of UNESCO Chairs to the Promotion of Human Rights, Democracy, Peace and Tolerance" and "Agreement on Modalities of Co-operation among UNESCO Chairs in Human Rights, Democracy, Peace and Tolerance", (3rd International Meeting of UNESCO Chairs, both adopted by the participants of the Third International Meeting of Chairs, 24-27 April 2002 in Stadtschlaining, Austria. Through this initiative, these documents (before only available in English and French) have been widely disseminated in Spanish speaking countries, too.

Some additional future activities:

Beyond the continuation of the Permanent Education Cycle and other publication projects, the Chair will organize a Forum on the Right to Education in Uruguay to discuss in an expanded capacity, this important issue. (Autumn 2002).

The Coordinator of the Chair participated in the 'Diplomado' of the Commission of Human Rights of the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, on the topic "International Protection of Human Rights: ONU and OAS". Afterwards, information on the results will be provided to other UNESCO Chairs.

The Chair is setting up a Documentation Centre (including its home page at Internet) and has started to design a Calendar of its own events, as well as national/international UNESCO events.

The Academic Committee of the UNESCO Chair consists of the following personalities:

Rector, Ing. Rafael Guarga;

Dr. Hector Gros Espiell; Ing. Jorge Brovetto; Dra. Jacinta Balbela de Delgue; Dr. Daniel Vidart;

Dr. José Cagnon; Dr. Horacio Cassinelli; Dr. Fernando Urioste; Dra. Mariana Blengio Valdës

Dr. Mariana Blengio Valdës

Co-ordinator