OMNI

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY


For a CULTURE OF PEACE AND JUSTICE

Compiled by Dick Bennett.

(#1 12-10-08; #2 12-10-09; #3 12-10-11; #4 December 10, 2012; #5 Dec. 10, 2013; #6, Dec. 10, 2014)

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What’s at stake: On Dec. 7 and 8 the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, repeating the clichés of 70 years ago, celebrated Pearl Harbor to exemplify US resolve and resilience in standing tall against aggressors, despite the truth that Pearl Harbor was an intensification of a long conflict over who would control the Pacific and E. Asia—Japan or the Western powers. Since Dec. 7, 1941, Japan’s attack on the US fleet in Pearl Harbor has been used, like the Munich “appeasement” agreement with Hitler, to justify US imperial defense and protection, as if Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Libya, Yemen, and Somalia had attacked the US. Two pages of automatic celebration of armed violence to settle problems. Today, December 10, the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette made no mention of Human Rights Day. This newsletter is some small corrective by recognizing the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as the common standard for human rights everywhere and the United Nations as the chief structure for their realization.

See: UN/USA, Amnesty International, OMNI Human Rights Newsletter, Bill of Rights DAY Newsletter (Dec. 15), Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, OMNI Vegetarian Action (animal rights), numerous newsletters about UN organizations.
OMNI National/INTERNATIONAL DAYS Project. December 2015 marks the end of new DAYS newsletters, which have been a small part of the total newsletters. The total newsletters provide a much larger library of information for research and action from the perspective of anti-war nonviolence, world peace, democracy, social and economic justice, human rights, and protection of the environment (193081 pageviews, 1553 posts, last tabulated on Dec 8, 2015).

URL for all UN DAYS:


Previous UN Human Rights Day Newsletters 2008-2013 at End

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Human Rights Day
10 December 2015
Introduction

Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December. It commemorates the day on which, in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 1950, the Assembly passed resolution 423 (V), inviting all States and interested organizations to observe 10 December of each year as Human Rights Day.

This year’s Human Rights Day is devoted to the launch of a year-long campaign for the 50th anniversary of the two International Covenants on Human Rights: the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1966.

The two Covenants, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, form the International Bill of Human Rights, setting out the civil, political, cultural, economic, and social rights that are the birth right of all human beings.

"Our Rights. Our Freedoms. Always." aims to promote and raise awareness of the two Covenants on their 50th anniversary. The year-long campaign revolves around the theme of rights and freedoms -- freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear -- which underpin the International Bill of Human Rights are as relevant today as they were when the Covenants were adopted 50 years ago. For more this year’s theme and the year-long campaign, see the website of the UN Human Rights office.

- Logo and promotional material
- Facts and figures about the two Covenants
- Human Rights Day 2015 - Q&A

Follow #HumanRightsDay

-- United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
Human Rights Day

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, (United States) holding a Declaration of Human Rights © UN Photo

Human Rights Day is observed by the international community every year on 10 December. It commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The formal inception of Human Rights Day dates from 1950, after the Assembly passed resolution 423 (V) inviting all States and interested organizations to adopt 10 December of each year as Human Rights Day.
When the General Assembly adopted the Declaration, with 48 states in favor and eight abstentions, it was proclaimed as a "common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations", towards which individuals and societies should "strive by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance". Although the Declaration with its broad range of political, civil, social, cultural and economic rights is not a binding document, it inspired more than 60 human rights instruments which together constitute an international standard of human rights. Today the general consent of all United Nations Member States on the basic Human Rights laid down in the Declaration makes it even stronger and emphasizes the relevance of Human Rights in our daily lives.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights, as the main United Nations rights official, and her Office play a major role in coordinating efforts for the yearly observation of Human Rights Day.

For the original interview go to:


Former Irish president Mary Robinson discusses her new memoir 'Everybody Matters'

Mary Robinson, author of 'Everybody Matters,' talked with me about everything from her meeting with the queen of England to the relationship between Ireland and Rwanda.

By, Contributor / March 15, 2013

In 1990, Mary Robinson became Ireland's first female president.

As a progressive liberal, Robinson seemed a very unlikely candidate for the job in what was then a deeply conservative country.

Throughout the '70s and '80s, she worked as a human rights lawyer as well as a senator, arguing a number of landmark cases that challenged various clauses within the Irish constitution which failed to protect minorities. Robinson fought on behalf of women, who were
effectively treated as second-class citizens; homosexuals, who were criminalized for their
sexual orientation; and campaigned to change the law on the sale of contraceptives, which
were illegal in Ireland without prescription until 1985.

When she became president, Robinson was determined to reinvigorate the role. In 1993, she
was the first Irish President to travel to Britain, when she met with Queen Elizabeth II for tea
in Buckingham Palace.

Robinson then returned to Britain in 1996 on an official state visit.

From 1997 to 2002, Robinson served as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The role
proved to have huge political difficulties, particularly in the post-9/11 world. Robinson openly
criticized the Bush Administration, much to the chagrin of then Secretary-General of the
United Nations Kofi Annan. In 2009, Robinson was awarded the US Presidential Medal of
Freedom from Barack Obama.

In recent years, Robinson has returned to Ireland to live, where she set up The Mary
Robinson Foundation–Climate Justice, a center for leadership, education and advocacy for
those affected by climate change across the globe.

Robinson's memoir Everybody Matters recalls a long and dedicated career as a public
servant, both at national and international level.

Recently she spoke with me about the difficulties the role of UN High Commissioner
presented, how Eleanor Roosevelt provided a life-changing moment, and why she has always
been persuaded by those who fight for equality and justice through non-violent methods.

Was it your awareness of middle class privilege from an early age that inspired you to peruse
a career that fought for justice in society?

Well, I came from a family that was privileged but not rich. My mother was a very warm,
engaging, and open person, but she was also quite snobbish. She thought our family were
great because we had a background of a colonial past, and plaques on the wall in the
Protestant church in the town of Ballina, County Mayo, because the first Catholic in the family
was my grandfather. The more she talked about this, the more I was rebelling the other way.
For me, it was all about fairness.

You talk about reading Eleanor Roosevelt at any early age. What did you see in her worldview
that inspired you?

I always loved people who were inspirational. Figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Michael Davitt,
Daniel O'Connell, and Martin Luther King. In 1958, Eleanor Roosevelt made a famous speech
on the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and she said: “Where,
after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home.” When I read this, I
had a lightbulb moment and thought, I really want to be involved in this.
Reminder: Human Rights Day Syria Actions - Diplomacy NOT War

Peace & Planet via mail.salsalabs.net 11:46 AM (3 hours ago)

Dick,

Reminder: Dec. 10, 2015, Human Rights Day Actions for Diplomacy Not War in Syria

Friends,

Sometimes it's not a pleasure to be right. Back in October the Peace and Planet Coordinating Committee discussed the increasing dangers of a military incident between the U.S. and Russia leading to escalation and in the very worst case, to a nuclear confrontation or worse.

This is why, thinking in terms of peace as a human right, we put out our call for actions and events on Dec. 10, Human Rights Day.

Then came the downing of a Russian warplane in Syria after it reportedly violated Turkish air space for 17 seconds. Remembering that Turkey is a member of NATO, you can fill out the picture.

And, since October, hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees have fled the war and dismal refugee camps across the Middle East. Here in the US, unlike Germany, instead of offering sanctuary to people fleeing for their lives, too many of our elected officials have exploited unjust fears and racism to prevent desperate children, women and men from reaching safety.

This, in turn, feeds ISIS' "the West hates Muslims" narrative that draws it new recruits, extends the Syrian War, and fuels terrorist attacks.

Among other responses to our call, here in Boston United for Justice and Peace has planned "War Is Not the Answer" vigil, merging appeals for diplomacy and support for the Syrian refugees. http://masspeaceaction.org/events/syria-refugees-vigil

Please take action next Thursday, organizing a vigil in your community. And, if you are in the U.S., please generate calls and e-mails to your Senators urging them to vote against legislation that would bar Syrian refugees.

For Peace & Planet

Joseph Gerson

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http://www.PeaceAndPlanet.org
HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS, Google Search, Dec. 3, 2015, page one

United Nations Human Rights Council

www.ohchr.org/

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for H...

14 September - 2 October 2015 ... 13 August 2015 (published on 3 September 2015) ... Organizational session for the 10th cycle of the Human Rights Council ... Human rights organisations and campaign groups are facing their biggest ...

International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies

www.iaohra.org/

PCHR Blog Post and the 2015 IAOHRA Conference ... Other Member Agencies Human Rights Events ... As President of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA), I take great pride in welcoming you to our ...

Human Rights Watch

... Give Monthly · Partners for Justice. October 30, 2015 Dispatches ... Deregistered human rights groups face an uphill battle. The bank accounts of most of the ...

Rights Groups Call on U.S. Agencies to Appoint Human Rights Contact · Jenna McLaughlin · Jenna McLaughlin. 2015-11-04T19:23:43+00:00. More than two ...

Worldwide Movement for Human Rights

https://www.fidh.org/

International Federation for Human Rights

Read here · 178 human rights organisations throughout the world ... Fighting terrorism and protecting human rights: analysis from FIDH movement ... 03/12/2015.

1. Amnesty International - Official Site

www.amnestyusa.org/

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Meets Standards for Charity Accountability – Better Business Bureau

- Donate Now
Searches related to HUMAN Rights Organizations 2015

- advocacy and human rights organizations
- human rights organizations jobs
- human rights organizations internships
- largest human rights organizations
- human rights international organizations
- human rights organizations in middle east
- human rights organizations europe

ATTACKS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, Google Search December 3, 2015

Human rights groups face global crackdown 'not seen in a ...

www.theguardian.com › ... › Civil liberties - international

The Guardian

Aug 26, 2015 - Wednesday 26 August 2015 04.44 EDT Last modified on ... Human rights organisations and campaign groups are facing their biggest ...

... Russia: Government against Rights Groups | Human Rights ...

https://www.hrw.org/russia-government-against-rig...

Human Rights Watch

Nov 10, 2015 - As a result, by February 2015 at least 13 groups chose to shut down rather than wear the shameful “foreign agent” label, including Association ...

World Report 2015: China | Human Rights Watch

https://www.hrw.org/world.../2015/.../china-and-tib...

Human Rights Watch

The Chinese government's open hostility towards human rights activists was tragically ... China has 500,000 registered nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), ...

Dispatches: Kenya's Human Rights Groups Still in the ...

https://www.hrw.org/.../2015/.../dispatches-kenyas-...
Human rights activists and civil society groups reported harassment and threats for their work on justice and accountability. Abuses by Government Security ...

Rights Groups Call on U.S. Agencies to Appoint Human Rights Contact · Jenna McLaughlin · Jenna McLaughlin. 2015-11-04T19:23:43+00:00. More than two ...

UN rights chief deplores suspension of human rights groups ...

25 November 2015 – The top United Nations human rights official today deplored ... of 10 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including several working on ...

1. Amnesty International - Official Site

Save Lives: Makes A Gift To Amnesty International Now!
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Americans for Peace Now

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Code Pink Women Lead to Peace, Syria
Human Rights Hero: Cynthia Brown
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Death Penalty for Atheists
Jack Donnelly, Human Rights Scholar

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   Human Rights Treaties are US Law
People’s Universal Declaration of Rights of Mother Earth, Cochabamba, Bolivia Recent OMNI
Human Rights Newsletters

END UN HUMAN RIGHTS DAY NEWSLETTER #7, DEC. 10, 2015

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Dick Bennett

Blog: http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/
For research purposes, specific subjects can be located in the following alphabetized index, and searched on the blog using the search box. The search box is located in the upper left corner of the webpage.
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