



For the purpose of the conference held by the Forum for 21st Century on 29th November, 2011 for the Forum, with regard to the positions of participating countries and international organizations, on the Global cultural issues pronounces and suggest:

## New Concept of Fundamental Human Rights and Freedom

### Notes

- 📌 Governments and international organizations had set many goals for new millennium, such as eradicating poverty and hunger, reduce mortality, ensure environmental and economic sustainability or develop global partnership for development. But any of these goals cannot be achieved without realization of human rights. A decent standard of living, adequate nutrition, health care, education, decent work and protection against calamities are not just goals for the new millennium they are also human rights.
- 📌 Human rights as an fundamental but essential right of every person in the world started to be an important and striking issue especially after the terrifying experience of World War II. As a reaction to the war, the Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948 within the United Nations Organization. The aim of the document was to prevent the human rights violation. Nowadays there are 184 member states of the UNO, means all of these countries should respect the rules described in the Declaration. However, they are not forced to do so, as the declaration is not legally binding. The states only declare their intention to set the general rules of behavior. Complex harmonization or unification of the human rights on the international level is impossible due to the culture and traditions that differ in every single nation or civilisation. Decisive factor influencing the ensuring of human rights is the political system. Each nation defines the human rights in different way. The result is a relative perception of the term “human rights” and therefore different laws that should ensure those.
- 📌 It has been already 63 years since United Nations Declaration of Human Rights was adopted. Since then many acts and declaration were signed including Helsinki Declaration, regional and national documents such as European Convention on Human Rights and American Convention on Human rights. Each of these documents has the same disadvantage as the UN Declaration – in relation to national legislation they have no binding character and there is no legal way of punishment for states that break the law. So the main responsibility of insuring human rights is in competency of national states that are sovereigns over its population.
- 📌 Human rights are the foundation of justice and peace in the world. They can be best maintained on the one hand by an effective political democracy and on the other hand by a common understanding and observance of the human rights upon which they depend.
- 📌 In the effort of achieving the effective law enforcement in the field of human rights the Forum for 21st century shall respect the cultural, religious and linguistic diversity of the civilizations.



### Proposals

- ✿ The Forum for 21st opens the negotiations to discuss a new concept of human rights which all the countries in the world would have to ensure by adopting new legislation and creating an effective system of jurisdiction in order to enforce the law. The priority is to recognize dignity, freedom, equal and inalienable rights for every individual and find a proper way and peaceful means to ensure the human rights in all over the world.
- ✿ The Forum for 21st feels responsibility to provide a forum for open discussion on the issues concerning current state of human rights. The main challenge will be to find a consensus on what should or should not be regarded as a human right with respect to any culture and civilization.
- ✿ To set up the international tribunal to solve the problems and complaints concerning human rights within UN. Every person regardless to its nationality, gender, age or religion would have a right to sue any political institution or other subject for breaking the law. States wouldn't have any possibility to avoid the court as it would be legally binding for them. The tribunal would be set up by the international accord signed by all the UN member states.
- ✿ To sign an international accord to set the universal rules and serving as a basis for creating the legislation of states that might have impact on human or citizen rights. These would contain for example law permitting the execution of capital punishment, euthanasia as well as media suppression, politics of one child or permission of private property. However, it is hoped that the resolution will also be of use to other actors – civil society organization, national human rights institutions and other internal organizations – that are committed to the compliance of human rights. Whether explicit or implicit, norms and values should shape policies and institutions. The human rights approach offers an explicit normative framework – that of international human rights.
- ✿ Underpinned by universally recognized moral values and reinforced by legal obligations, international human rights provide a compelling normative framework for the formulation of national and international policies, including poverty reduction strategies. It is our objective to involve implementation of human rights in poverty reduction strategies. The essential idea underlying the adoption of a human right to poverty reduction is that the norms and values enshrined in it have the potential to empower the poor. It is now widely recognized that effective poverty reduction is not possible without empowerment of the poor.
- ✿ At the same time „lawyers should not be the only voice in human rights as, equally, economists should not be the only voice in development“ we are challenged to represent human rights principles in a form of international public goods. It is necessary to emphasize and illustrate that attention to human rights can reinforce also other goals. The Forum hope to assist countries, international organizations and individuals to translate human rights norms, standards and principles into policies, strategies and day to day life of every individual.



# The Model Conference

## Cross-Cultural Issues in the Global Context

Faculty of International Relations, University of Economics in Bratislava



# Modelová konferencia

## Kultúrna sekcia

Fakulta medzinárodných vzťahov, Ekonomická univerzita v Bratislave

- ✿ To create a mechanism supporting the work of NGO's to monitor state's compliance with human rights standards and to coordinate public opinion against offending states.
- ✿ Human rights are freedoms established by custom or international agreement that impose standards of conduct on all nations. Human rights are distinct from civil liberties, which are freedoms established by the law of a particular state and applied by that state in its own jurisdiction. The Forum therefore aims to bind the states to incorporate the human rights into their legislation. Rights, norms and standards demand accountability. Unless supported by a system of accountability rights, norms and standards become little more than window – dressing. All mechanisms should be accessible, transparent and effective.