

Universal Periodic Review
South Africa
27th Session
April / May 2017

Universal Ratification & Implementation of Human Rights



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Four Freedoms Forum is a flame of liberty providing light around the planet with a passion for human rights promotion and protection beginning with human rights education. Inspired by Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Four Freedom State of the Union address as well as the subsequent inclusion of human rights in the United Nations Charter and the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Four Freedoms Forum concentrates on coordination of human rights education curriculum at the global civil society, country, city, and community level through public and popular education. Beyond education is the engagement of civil society to promote the creation of a World Court of Human Rights to prevent future harms to humanity.

Regarding South Africa, the rule of law is a significant pillar for sustained peace and prosperity.

Issue: Rule of Law Through Ratification of International Instruments; Realize Human Rights Through Support of Regional Human Rights Institution and Support for a World Court of Human Rights

Questions:

What are major challenges to ratify UN human rights treaties and reporting to the UN human rights treaty bodies? Please cite how global civil society such as Four Freedoms Forum can assist to improve one's ratification and implementation of UN human rights instruments through participatory process?

How will state increase its involvement in regional human rights instruments and institutions before the midterm review?

How does the state plan to implement Universal Declaration of Human Rights Art 28, "Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized."?

Would the state be a supporter of a Global Bill of Rights with an International Court of Human Rights at the UN Human Rights Council?

Recommendations:

Provide roadmap and cite timetable to ensure ratification of all United Nations human rights treaties as well as acceptance of UPR recommendations.

Issue open invitation for the UN Human Rights special procedures and process to partner with civil society to implement recommendations from the country visit reports.

Share role and next steps to support a regional human rights mechanism that can provide avenue for advocacy for civil society to realize rights. Cite the level of commitment and seriousness by the state to enlarge the regional efforts to a universal scale?

Provide examples of states leadership regarding legally enforceable fundamental rights in own country and an evolution of international instruments and institutions

Reach out and request volunteer assistance for capacity building to ratify and realize human rights with Four Freedoms Forum that will provide professional training and legal knowledge to ensure positive experience that strengthens state to take human rights temperature.

Conclusion

The rule of law through ratification and timely reporting of international human rights instruments is important pillar for peace in each state. It is a positive process to prevent human harm. The creation of regional human rights mechanisms can contribute to country well-being providing tool to transform nation. Eventually, a world court of human rights is the next step to secure human rights for all.

Four Freedoms Forum aspires to initiate action that transforms the commitment among countries and global civil society to create accountability. Four Freedoms Forum focuses on protection and prevention through the implementation of an international bill of rights through a World Court of Human Rights.

Four Freedoms Forum mobilizes humanity based on hope and the potential for human rights to inform our citizens of their fundamental freedoms so they are never surrendered. Four Freedoms Forum aims to ensure everyday citizens can influence our elected officials to remember our common history of human rights and continue the legacy of lawmaking that ensures dignity for all in our pursuit of peace and democracy for all rooted in global justice. Four Freedoms Forum understands the measures so far from UN charter and treaty bodies requires an evolution to a full-time global human rights mechanism that can ensure fundamental freedoms for everyone on earth.