

Intersessional Workshop on the Right to Peace

14 June 2018

Room VII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

I. BACKGROUND

On 19 December 2016, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Right to Peace ([A/RES/71/189](#), annex). Its Article 1 provides that “Everyone has the right to enjoy peace such that all human rights are promoted and protected and development is fully realized.” Pursuant to its Article 2, “States should respect, implement and promote equality and non-discrimination, justice and the rule of law, and guarantee freedom from fear and want as a means to build peace within and between societies.”

In terms of implementation, Article 3 calls upon States, the United Nations and specialized agencies to take appropriate sustainable measures to implement the Declaration on the Right to Peace, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). International, regional, national and local organizations and civil society are encouraged to support and assist in the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Peace.

With regard to educating for peace, Article 4 provides that international and national institutions of education for peace shall be promoted in order to strengthen among all human beings the spirit of tolerance, dialogue, cooperation and solidarity. To this end, the University for Peace should contribute to the great universal task of educating for peace by engaging in teaching, research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge.

On 22 June 2017, the Human Rights Council decided to convene, with the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the period between the thirty-seventh and the thirty-eighth sessions of the Human Rights Council, a half-day intersessional workshop on the right to peace, to discuss the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Peace ([A/HRC/RES/35/4](#)).

II. INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOP

Date and Venue

The intersessional workshop will be held on 14 June 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Room VII of Palais des Nations (8–14 avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland).

Participants and Logistical Arrangements

The Human Rights Council encouraged all Member States, specialized agencies and civil society to participate in the discussions of the workshop so that worldwide representation in the debates can be ensured. The intersessional workshop will be held with simultaneous interpretation services in all six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

In order to register for this workshop, please log in at <https://reg.unog.ch/event/24546/>

Issues of Focus

Following an opening statement by a representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the intersessional workshop will discuss the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Peace since its adoption on 19 December 2016.

In the first part, the intersessional workshop will focus on means to build peace within and between societies, including equality and non-discrimination, justice and the rule of law and freedom from fear and want (Article 2 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace).

In the second part, the intersessional workshop will concentrate on sustainable measures by States, the United Nations and specialized agencies to implement the Declaration on the Right to Peace, as well as measures by international, regional, national and local organizations and civil society to support and assist in its implementation (Article 3 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace).

The third part will address the universal task of educating for peace, including through international and national institutions of education for peace as well as the University for Peace's engagement in teaching, research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge (Article 4 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace).

III. OUTCOME

OHCHR will prepare a summary report on the intersessional workshop, as requested by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 35/4. The report will be submitted to the Council at its thirty-ninth session in September 2018.

Background documents:

- General Assembly resolution 71/189 of 19 December 2016, "Declaration on the Right to Peace" ([A/RES/71/189](#), annex)
- Human Rights Council resolution 35/4 of 22 June 2017, "Promotion of the right to peace" ([A/HRC/RES/35/4](#))