



Tutmonda Esperantista Junulara Organizo

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Dear Mrs. Imma Guerras-Delgado,  
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

We would like to bring to your kind attention a few recommendations in the context of youth rights.

World Esperanto Youth Organization (TEJO) was founded in 1938 and is an umbrella structure of 42 youth organizations. Its mission is to fight against discrimination and to build an inclusive society, based on global understanding beyond language barriers, defending the cultural richness of language diversity and the language rights of everyone, with a special focus on language minorities, in the framework of youth rights and human rights.

Equality and non-discrimination are core principles of international human rights law.

According to Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights”, while, according to article 2: “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it is independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.”

The principle of equality and non-discrimination pervades international human rights frameworks, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. A number of international conventions provide protections for specific groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities for example.

While such frameworks are only applicable to States that have ratified them, they also apply to young people belonging to these groups. A similar convention on the rights of young people in Europe would be a significant step in advancing equality and nondiscrimination for youth.

In this context, we would like to recommend:

### **Equality and non-discrimination of youth**

Issue at stake:

**Right to non-discrimination**

Suggested  
recommendations

To involve, in line with the rights-based approach, groups facing discrimination at all levels of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies affecting them.

To promote increased dialogue and cooperation between the different institutional actors working with equality, non-discrimination and youth, together with youth organisations.

To strengthen an inclusive school system that would allow full accessibility for minorities and provide for future citizens an education to accepting diversity and minorities.

Issue at stake:

**Freedom from discriminations**

Suggested  
recommendations

To promote increased dialogue and cooperation between the different institutional actors working with equality, non-discrimination and youth, together with youth organisations.

To develop and adopt a comprehensive framework convention on youth rights.

To ensure stronger political engagement and inclusion of youth organisations in policy development related to young people at risk of discrimination, including through the creation of structures and spaces for reflection and dialogue with young people who experience discrimination, together with other relevant stakeholders.

**Sincerely,**

World Esperanto Youth Organization