

Supplemental Resources for Students

Carrie Booth Walling, *Human Rights and Justice for All: Demanding Dignity in the United States and Around the World* (Routledge, 2022)

In the pages that follow you will find the human rights instruments and organizations referenced in *Human Rights and Justice for All*. They are compiled and organized with web addresses for ease of access. Use these sources to learn more about the meaning of human rights and efforts aimed at their realization.

The International Bill of Human Rights

The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** is a historic document agreed to by the world's governments that defines the fundamental human rights to be universally guaranteed. It is a common standard for all peoples and nations. Its content has been legally codified into 2 international treaties: the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights** and the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**. Combined, these 3 documents are known as the **International Bill of Human Rights**.

- [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights) (UDHR)
(<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>)
- [International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CCPR.aspx) (ICCPR)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CCPR.aspx>)
- [International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cescr.aspx) (ICESCR)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cescr.aspx>)

The 9 Core International Human Rights Treaties

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (also called UN Human Rights) maintains a virtual repository of the [core human rights instruments](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx) (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx>). Here you can access all 9 instruments and their monitoring bodies. Several of these treaties also have optional protocols which may provide for procedures relating to the treaty or that address a substantive area related to the treaty. Optional protocols are human rights treaties in their own right. They are open to signature, accession or ratification by countries who are party to the main treaty they are related to.

- [International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination \(ICERD\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CERD.aspx) (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CERD.aspx>)
 - The ICERD is devoted in its entirety to promoting racial equality and prohibiting racial discrimination.
- [International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(ICESCR\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ICESCR.aspx) (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ICESCR.aspx>)
 - The ICESCR provides protections for economic, social, and cultural rights. It has an optional protocol that establishes a complaints and inquiry mechanism.

- [International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights \(ICCPR\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CCPR.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CCPR.aspx>)
 - The ICCPR provides a range of protections for civil and political rights. The ICCPR has two optional protocols. One protocol establishes an individual complaint mechanism and the other aims at the abolition of the death penalty.
- [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women \(CEDAW\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx>)
 - CEDAW is frequently described as an international bill of rights for women. It defines what counts as discrimination against women and sets an agenda for ending that discrimination. CEDAW has an optional protocol that establishes complaints and inquiry mechanisms.
- [Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment \(CAT\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CAT.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CAT.aspx>)
 - The CAT aims to prevent torture and other acts of cruel, inhuman, or degrading punishment around the world. The optional protocol establishes an international inspection system for detention facilities.
- [Convention on the Rights of the Child \(CRC\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>)
 - The CRC describes the political, civil, economic, social, and cultural rights of children. There are 3 optional protocols to the CRC: 1) on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography; 2) on the involvement of children in armed conflict; and 3) on a communication procedure for raising understanding of these rights among children and youth.
- [International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families \(ICRMW\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CMW.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CMW.aspx>)
 - The ICRMW governs the protection of migrant workers and their families.
- [International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance \(CPED\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CED/Pages/ConventionCED.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CED/Pages/ConventionCED.aspx>)
 - The CPED is intended to prevent forced disappearance.
- [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\)](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/ConventionRightsPersonsWithDisabilities.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/ConventionRightsPersonsWithDisabilities.aspx>)
 - The CRPD protects the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. It has an optional protocol that allows for its monitoring committee to consider complaints from individuals.

The [University of Minnesota Human Rights Library](http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/) (<http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/>) also maintains one of the largest collections of human rights documents and materials. It contains more than sixty thousand core human rights documents, including several hundred human rights treaties and other primary international human rights instruments. The site also provides access to more than four thousands links and a unique search device for multiple human rights sites.

Regional Human Rights Instruments

- [American Convention on Human Rights](https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic3.american%20convention.htm)
(<https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic3.american%20convention.htm>)
 - According to its preamble, the American Convention on Human Rights aims to consolidate within the western hemisphere a system of personal liberty and social justice.
- [American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man](https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic2.american%20declaration.htm)
(<https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic2.american%20declaration.htm>)
 - The American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man predates the UDHR and sets forth the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of signatory nations.
- [African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights](https://www.achpr.org/legalinstruments/detail?id=49)
(<https://www.achpr.org/legalinstruments/detail?id=49>)
 - The African Charter on Human Rights recognizes the indivisibility of all rights and includes socio-economic rights, collective rights, and environmental rights.
- [Asian Human Rights Charter](https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/452678304.pdf) (<https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/452678304.pdf>)
 - The Asian Human Rights Charter is a People's Charter created in 1998 at the initiative of the Asian Human Rights Commission
(<http://www.humanrights.asia/>)
- [Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam](http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/instree/cairodeclaration.html)
(<http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/instree/cairodeclaration.html>)
 - The Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam is a declaration of the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.
- [European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms](https://www.echr.coe.int/Pages/home.aspx?p=basictexts&c#:~:text=of%20the%20Court,European%20Convention%20on%20Human%20Rights,force%20on%203%20September%201953)
(<https://www.echr.coe.int/Pages/home.aspx?p=basictexts&c#:~:text=of%20the%20Court,European%20Convention%20on%20Human%20Rights,force%20on%203%20September%201953>)
 - The European Convention on Human Rights protects the human rights of people in the 47 countries that belong to the Council of Europe.

Additional Human Rights Instruments

- [The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/geneva_conventions_and_their_additional_protocols#:~:text=The%20Geneva%20Conventions%20are%20a)
(https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/geneva_conventions_and_their_additional_protocols#:~:text=The%20Geneva%20Conventions%20are%20a)
 - The Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols are a series of treaties that establish international legal standards for humane treatment in war.
- [Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief](https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/religionorbelief.aspx)
(<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/religionorbelief.aspx>)
 - This instrument outlines effective measures that nations must take to prevent and eliminate discrimination against persons on the grounds of religion and belief.
- [American Convention on Human Rights](https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic3.american%20convention.htm)
(<https://www.cidh.oas.org/basicos/english/basic3.american%20convention.htm>)
 - According to its preamble, the American Convention on Human Rights aims to consolidate within the western hemisphere a system of personal liberty and social justice.

- [Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court](https://www.icc-cpi.int/resource-library/documents/rs-eng.pdf)
(<https://www.icc-cpi.int/resource-library/documents/rs-eng.pdf>)
 - The Rome Statute is a treaty that establishes the International Criminal Court. It establishes four international crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
- [Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf)
(https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf)
 - The Genocide Convention was the first human rights treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly, preceding the adoption of the UDHR. It defines the crime of genocide and obligates states to prevent and punish genocide.
- [UN 75 Declaration](#)
 - In 2020, UN members reaffirmed their commitment to human rights and created a common agenda of 12 government commitments.
- [UN 75 People's Declaration and Plan for Global Action](#)
 - The People's Declaration was created by members of civil society. Its purpose is to promote a people-centered multilateralism. It reaffirms dignity and human rights as part of its plan for global action.

International Human Rights Organizations (NGOs)

- [Amnesty International](https://www.amnesty.org) (<https://www.amnesty.org>)
 - Amnesty International is a global movement and human rights membership organization that aims to protect and empower people in upholding the entire spectrum of human rights.
- [Center for Economic and Social Rights](https://www.cesr.org/what-are-economic-social-and-cultural-rights/)
(<https://www.cesr.org/what-are-economic-social-and-cultural-rights/>)
 - The Center for Economic and Social Rights's mission is to harness the power of human rights to inspire fairer and more sustainable communities.
- [Global Fund for Women](https://www.globalfundforwomen.org/) (<https://www.globalfundforwomen.org/>)
 - The Global Fund for Women supports gender justice movements to create human rights change that transforms power and privilege for the few into equity and equality for all.
- [Human Rights Watch](https://www.hrw.org) (<https://www.hrw.org>)
 - Human Rights Watch investigates and reports on abuses of human rights in all parts of the world and advocates for those in power to respect, promote, protect, and fulfill human rights, and secure justice.
- [International Federation for Human Rights \(FIDH\)](https://www.fidh.org/en/) (<https://www.fidh.org/en/>)
 - FIDH defends all civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- [Just Associates \(JASS\)](https://justassociates.org/who-we-are/) (<https://justassociates.org/who-we-are/>)
 - JASS is a global women-led human rights network uniting women across five continents to support feminist movement building in 27 countries.
- [Minority Rights Group International](https://minorityrights.org/) (<https://minorityrights.org/>)

- o Minority Rights Group International works on the human rights of minorities and cooperation between communities.
- [Physicians for Human Rights](https://phr.org/) (https://phr.org/)
 - o Physicians for Human Rights uses science, medicine and law to secure human rights and justice.
- [WITNESS](https://www.witness.org/) (https://www.witness.org/)
 - o WITNESS helps people use video and technology to protect and defend human rights.

NGOs that Protect Human Rights Defenders

- [Frontline Defenders](https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/) (https://www.frontlinedefenders.org)
 - o The aim of Frontline Defenders is to protect human rights defenders at risk and people who work non-violently for any or all of the human rights enshrined in the UDHR.
- [MesoAmerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders \(IM-Defenders\)](https://im-defensoras.org/en/) (https://im-defensoras.org/en/)
 - o A network of more than 2,000 women human rights defenders in the Mesoamerican region working to strengthen protection and solidarity networks between women defenders and increase the visibility, recognition, and impact of their work for human rights.
- [Protection International](https://www.protectioninternational.org/) (https://www.protectioninternational.org/)
 - o Works with grassroots human rights defenders who are at risk and promotes policies and strategies for protecting defenders.

American Human Rights and Justice Organizations

- [Advocates for Human Rights](https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/) https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/
 - o The Advocates implement international human rights standards to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law.
- [American Civil Liberties Union](https://www.aclu.org/) https://www.aclu.org/
 - o The mission of the ACLU is to realize the promise of the United States Constitution for all and expand the reach of its guarantees.
- [Black Lives Matter](https://blacklivesmatter.com/) (https://blacklivesmatter.com/)
 - o Black Lives Matter’s mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the State and vigilantes.
- [Center for Justice and Accountability](https://cja.org/) https://cja.org/
 - o CJA works to bring human rights abusers to justice.
- [Center for Victims of Torture](https://www.cvt.org/) https://www.cvt.org/
 - o CVT advances human rights and aims to build a future free from torture.
- [Children’s Defense Fund](https://www.childrensdefense.org/) https://www.childrensdefense.org/
 - o The Children’s Defense Fund champions children advocates for their rights and protection.
- [Coalition of Immokalee Workers](https://ciw-online.org/) (CIW) (https://ciw-online.org/)

- o CIW is a farmworker community and worker-based human rights organization.
- [Human Rights Campaign](https://www.hrc.org/) (https://www.hrc.org/)
 - o The Human Rights Campaign envisions a world where every member of the LGBTQ+ family has the freedom to live their truth without fear, and with equality under the law.
- [Human Rights First](https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/) (https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/)
 - o Human Rights First is an independent action and advocacy organization that challenges the United States to live up to its human rights ideals.
- [NAACP](https://www.naacp.org/) (https://www.naacp.org/)
 - o More than 2,200 units across the United States engaging in grassroots activism for civil rights and social justice.
- [Southern Poverty Law Center](https://www.splcenter.org/) (https://www.splcenter.org/)
 - o The SPLC partners with communities to dismantle white supremacy, strengthen intersectional movements, and advance the human rights of all people.
- [Worker Rights Consortium](https://www.workersrights.org/) (https://www.workersrights.org/)
 - o WRC is an independent labor rights monitoring organization.

International Courts, Tribunals & Investigative Mechanisms

- [The International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](https://www.icj-cij.org/en) (https://www.icj-cij.org/en)
- [International Criminal Court \(ICC\)](https://www.icc-cpi.int/) (https://www.icc-cpi.int/)
- [Special Court for Sierra Leone](http://www.rscsl.org/) (http://www.rscsl.org/)
- [Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia](https://www.eccc.gov.kh/en/introduction-eccc) (https://www.eccc.gov.kh/en/introduction-eccc)
- [International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia](https://www.icty.org/) (https://www.icty.org/)
- [International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda](https://unictr.irmct.org/) (https://unictr.irmct.org/)
- [International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals \(MICT\)](https://www.irmct.org/en) (https://www.irmct.org/en)
- [The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/iicisyria/pages/independentinternationalcommission.aspx) (https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/iicisyria/pages/independentinternationalcommission.aspx)
- [Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL \(UNITAD\)](https://www.unitad.un.org/) (https://www.unitad.un.org/)

Human Rights Journals

- Human Rights Quarterly
- Human Rights Review
- Journal of Human Rights
- International Journal of Human Rights
- Journal of Human Rights Practice
- Human Rights Law Review
- International Journal of Transitional Justice

For a more comprehensive list of human rights journals visit the University and College Consortium for [Human Rights Education](http://ucchre.org/human-rights-journals/) (http://ucchre.org/human-rights-journals/)