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КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ

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HUMAN RIGHTS

*Практикум з навчальної дисципліни
«Іноземна мова (за професійним спрямуванням)»
для здобувачів першого (бакалаврського) рівня
вищої освіти галузі знань 08 «Право»
спеціальності 081 – «Право»*

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М30 Human rights: практикум з навчальної дисципліни «Іноземна мова (за професійним спрямуванням)» для здобувачів першого (бакалаврського) рівня вищої освіти галузі знань 08 «Право» спеціальності 081 – «Право» / уклад.: І.П. Марчук. – Одеса: НУ «ОЮА», 2025. – 68 с.

Практикум рекомендовано для формування та відпрацювання відповідних умінь та навичок роботи з фаховими автентичними текстами з англійської мови у здобувачів спеціальності 081-«Право» першого (бакалаврського) рівня вищої освіти. Видання складається з вступу, 5 юнітів та інформації про джерела. Кожний розділ містить текст за темою, таблиці/ілюстрації, запитання, лексичні вправи, вправи на переклад та завдання для презентацій та проєктної роботи.

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ВСТУП

Практикум «Human rights» до практичних занять з навчальної дисципліни «Іноземна мова (за професійним спрямуванням)» рекомендовано для здобувачів вищої освіти першого (бакалаврського) рівня за спеціальністю 081 – «Право». Укладено відповідно силабусу навчальної дисципліни, яка є обов'язковою. У практикумі реалізовано основні дидактичні принципи науковості, систематичності, послідовності та доступності викладу.

Метою практикуму є досягнення студентами очікуваних результатів навчання через формування та розвиток загальних компетентностей: здатності застосовувати знання в практичних ситуаціях; здатності до критичного та самокритичного мислення; здатності взаємодіяти з представниками інших професійних груп різного рівня (з експертами з інших галузей знань/видів економічної діяльності); здатності навчатися та опановувати сучасні знання; здатності використовувати інформаційні та комунікаційні технології.

Використання матеріалів практикуму «Human rights» під час практичних занять та самостійної роботи сприяє формуванню навичок використання понятійного апарату юридичної сфери в академічній, дослідницькій та інших сферах професійної діяльності, а також вмінню вільно спілкуватися державною та іноземною мовами усно і письмово з професійних питань, обґрунтовувати власну позицію, робити та аргументувати самостійні висновки за результатами досліджень і аналізу професійної літератури. Практикум складається з вступу, 5 юнітів з завданнями CHECK YOURSELF, додатків та інформації про джерела. Кожний розділ містить текст за темою, таблиці/ілюстрації, запитання, лексичні вправи, вправи на переклад та завдання для презентацій та проєктної роботи.

UNIT 1
WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?
CHARACTERISCTICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS



CHECK YOURSELF:

- What do you know about the organizations mentioned in the picture?
- Based on the quotes above, give your definition of human rights.
- Read the text and check it with your ideas.

TEXT

Human rights are **inherent** to all human beings, whatever our race, sex, nationality, place of residence, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. All people are **equally entitled to** our human rights without discrimination. These rights are **universal and inalienable, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated**.

- Universal because everyone is born with and possesses the same rights, regardless of where they live, their gender or race, or their religious, cultural or ethnic background.
- Inalienable because people's rights can never be taken away.
- Indivisible and interdependent because all rights – political, civil, social, cultural and economic – are equal in importance and none can be fully enjoyed without the others.

Universal human rights are often **expressed and guaranteed by law**, in the form of treaties, **customary international law**, general principles and other sources of international human rights law.

Following the Second World War, **the founding countries** of the United Nations adopted *the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in 1948. This declaration established the basic rights of all individuals and set them as a common standard of achievement for all nations. Since its adoption, over two dozen international treaties, along with numerous regional agreements, have laid the legal groundwork for human rights principles. When a government ratifies one of these treaties, it assumes legal responsibilities to protect and promote human rights.

The duty **to enforce** international human rights law rests primarily with governments themselves. For example, *the 1993 Vienna Declaration on Human Rights* noted that it is the duty of States **to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms**, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems.

Governments are **obligated** to protect and promote human rights by **prohibiting violations** by officials and agents of the state, **prosecuting offenders**, and creating ways that individuals can **seek help** for rights violations, such as having **competent, independent and impartial courts**. A country's failure **to act against** abuses by private individuals, such as **domestic violence**, can itself be a human rights violation.

KINDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL AND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

1. Civil and political rights. They include the rights to life, liberty and security of the individual; freedom from torture and slavery; political participation; freedom of opinion, expression, thought, conscience and religion; freedom of association and assembly.
2. Economic and social rights. These are "security-orientated" rights, for example the rights to work; education; a reasonable standard of living; food; shelter and health care.
3. Environmental, cultural and developmental rights. These include the rights to live in an environment that is clean and protected from destruction and rights to cultural, political and economic development.

These traditional categorizations of human rights as three generations of human rights, used in both national and international human rights circles, **traces** the chronological evolution of human rights as an echo to the cry of the French revolution: Liberté (freedoms, "civil and political" or "first generation" rights), Egalité (equality, "socio-economic" or "second generation" rights), and Fraternité (solidarity, "collective" or "third generation" rights). In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, **the struggle for**

rights focused on the **liberation from authoritarian oppression** and the corresponding rights of free speech, association and religion and the right to vote. With the changed view of the State role in an industrializing world, especially in the times after the Second World War, and against **the background of growing inequalities**, the importance of socio-economic rights became more clearly articulated. With growing globalization and a heightened awareness of overlapping global concerns, especially due to extreme poverty in some parts of the world, "third generation" rights, such as the rights to a healthy environment, to self-determination and to development, have been adopted.

Violating human rights is generally considered **impermissible** under international law. They should not be taken away, except in specific situations and according to due process. There are **specific and limited circumstances** where certain restrictions on human rights may be allowed. These circumstances typically include:

1. Public Safety and National Security. Certain rights may be **restricted** to protect public safety and national security. For example, **freedom of expression** may be limited **to prevent incitement to violence or terrorism**.
2. Public Order. Restrictions may be placed on rights **to maintain public order**. For example, **the right to peaceful assembly** may be regulated to ensure public order during demonstrations or protests.
3. Public Health. During public health emergencies, such as pandemics, certain rights can be temporarily restricted to protect public health. Quarantine measures and **mandatory** vaccinations are examples of such restrictions.
4. Rights of Others. Human rights may be limited to protect the rights and freedoms of others. For example, freedom of expression may be restricted to prevent **hate speech** that infringes on the rights of others.
5. Emergency Situations. In times of emergency, such as during war or natural disasters, some rights may be temporarily suspended. However, these measures must be necessary, proportionate, and time-limited. International human rights law, such

as *the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)*, outlines specific provisions for **derogation** of rights during **states of emergency**.

Despite these exceptions, certain rights are considered non-derogable, meaning they cannot be suspended even in times of emergency. These include:

1. the right to life
2. the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment
3. the prohibition of slavery and servitude
4. the right to recognition as a person before the law
5. the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

Any restriction or limitation on human rights must comply with international human rights standards and does not lead to arbitrary or unjustified violations.

WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?

UNITED NATIONS:

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination. [<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/human-rights>]

1



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

2

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

[<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>]

3

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Your rights are about being treated fairly and treating others fairly. They're about having the ability to make choices about your own life. They're about justice, freedom and equality. [<https://www.amnesty.org.au/>]



HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

4

Human rights are drawn from various cultures, religions and philosophies from around the world over many centuries. They are in force at all times and in all places. Human rights protect everyone equally without discrimination according to race, sex, religion, political opinion or other status.

[<https://www.hrw.org/news/2014/09/15/what-are-human-rights>]



ACTIVE VOCABULARY

Exercise 1. Read the following words and expressions from the text. Translate them into Ukrainian.

to be inherent		to seek help	
to be equally entitled to		to act against	
universal and inalienable		a domestic violence	
indivisible, interdependent and interrelated		to trace	
to be expressed and guaranteed by law		the struggle for rights	
customary international law		liberation from authoritarian oppression	
the founding countries		competent, independent and impartial courts	
to enforce		to be clearly articulated	
to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms		the background of growing inequalities	

to be obligated		to be impermissible	
to prohibit violations		specific and limited circumstances	
to prosecute offenders		to be restricted	
to prevent incitement to violence or terrorism		the freedom of expression	
to maintain public order		the right to peaceful assembly	
mandatory		a hate speech	
a derogation		the states of emergency	
the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment		the prohibition of slavery and servitude	
the right to recognition as a person before the law		the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion	

Exercise 2. Translate the following sentences into Ukrainian:

1. Human rights are inherent to all human beings, whatever our race, sex, nationality, place of residence, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.
2. All people are equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination.
3. Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the form of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international human rights law.
4. This declaration established the basic rights of all individuals and set them as a common standard of achievement for all nations.
5. When a government ratifies the treaties, it assumes legal responsibilities to protect and promote human rights.
6. Governments are obligated to protect and promote human rights by prohibiting violations by officials and agents of the state, prosecuting offenders, and creating ways that individuals can seek help for rights violations, such as having competent, independent and impartial courts.
7. With the changed view of the State role in an industrializing world, especially in the times after the Second World War, and against the background of growing inequalities, the importance of socio-economic rights became more clearly articulated.
8. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the struggle for rights focused on the liberation from authoritarian oppression and the corresponding rights of free speech, association and religion and the right to vote.
9. With growing globalization and a heightened awareness of overlapping global concerns, "third generation" rights, such as the rights to a healthy environment, to self-determination and to development, have been adopted.
10. Violating human rights is generally considered impermissible under international law.

Exercise 3. The text refers to some of the key documents in the field of international human rights law. Search the internet for information about them and briefly tell the group about the importance of these treaties:

- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948
- the 1993 Vienna Declaration on Human Rights
- the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Exercise 4. Give answers to the following questions:

1. What are the main characteristics of human rights?
2. Why are human rights considered universal?
3. Which document established the basic rights of all individuals?
4. What constitutes the legal basis for ensuring human rights?
5. How do states ensure the implementation of human rights?
6. What are the categories of human rights? Describe each category.
7. Why are three generations of human rights divided?
8. What gave rise to the second generation of human rights?
9. What caused the adoption of the third generation of rights?
10. What are the specific and limited circumstances under which human rights can be limited?

Exercise 5. Categorize the following human rights (civil and political, social and economic, environmental, cultural and development rights):

right to life, right to freedom from torture and inhumane treatment, right to express and develop one's cultural identity, right to work and have adequate working conditions, right to privacy, right to freedom of speech, right to participate in the cultural life of the community, right to privacy, right to peaceful assembly and association, right for education, right to live in a healthy environment, right to vote, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of self-determination, right to equality before the law.

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS	ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL AND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

Exercise 6. Find the words in the text that mean the following:

1. an official written agreement between two or more countries
2. basic, fundamental, natural
3. to make people obey a law, or to make a particular situation happen or be accepted
4. connected, related, corresponding
5. something that must be done, or is demanded by law
6. public speech that encourages violence towards a person or a group based on something such as race, nationality, sex, religion
7. to make an agreement official by signing it or formally accepting it
8. a situation in which people are governed unfairly and cruelly and prevented from having opportunities and freedom
9. the expansion of global trade, particularly by major corporations manufacturing and distributing products worldwide
10. unfair treatment of someone because of their religion, race, sex or other personal features

Exercise 7. Discuss with your partner examples of what you believe are fundamental human rights. List them and justify your opinion with reasons. Share your ideas with class in the form of discussion and add other possible examples to your list.

UNIT 2

BRIEF HISTORY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Brief History of Human Rights

Key documents and people that changed the history



CHECK YOURSELF:

- What do you know about the main events in the history of human rights?
- What events do you think led to the development of the problem of protecting human rights within the framework of international law?

TEXT A

The **establishment** of a modern understanding of human rights is **preceded** by thousands of years of development of law and the desire of **mankind** for humanism, **self-improvement** and the **affirmation** of human life as the main value. In this unit, we will observe how the concept of human rights has **evolved** over centuries, with key documents **marking significant milestones** in this journey.

The World's First Charter to Human Rights: The Cyrus Cylinder

In 539 B.C., the armies of Cyrus the Great, the first king of **ancient** Persia, **captured** the city of Babylon. Then, he **liberated** the slaves (**the abolition of slavery**), **proclaimed** the right of all people to choose their religion (**freedom of worship**), and **established racial equality**. These and other **decrees** were recorded on a **baked-clay cylinder** using the Akkadian language and **cuneiform script**.

Today, this ancient document is known as the Cyrus Cylinder and is recognized as the world's first charter of human rights. (1)

Magna Carta (1215)

In 1215, the Magna Carta was signed by King John of England. It is one of the earliest documents **to limit the power of the monarchy**, free the church from state **interference**, and **establish certain legal rights**, including the right to a fair trial.

Only four of the 63 clauses in Magna Carta are still valid today. The famous clauses 39 and 40 have held lasting significance for people referencing the charter over the past 800 years and they appeal to human rights:

“No free man shall be seized, imprisoned, dispossessed, outlawed, exiled or ruined in any way, nor in any way proceeded against, except by the lawful judgement of his peers and the law of the land”.

“To no one will we sell, to no one will we deny or delay right or justice.”
[www.parliament.uk]

Thus, the Magna Carta laid the foundation for the development of constitutional law and became one of the **cornerstones** in the evolution of human rights.

The English Bill of Rights (1689)

The English Bill of Rights, enacted in 1689, is a **landmark** document in the constitutional history of England. It was passed by the Parliament of England and is often regarded as a cornerstone in the development of parliamentary democracy and the rule of law. (2) The Bill became a crucial step in the

development of the rule of law and the protection of individual liberties, **setting a precedent** for the legal and constitutional framework in Britain and other democracies.

The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789)

This document was adopted during the French Revolution reflecting its ideals and **outlining** the fundamental rights of all citizens. The **drafts** of the Declaration were prepared by General Lafayette, working at times with his close friend Thomas Jefferson.

The ideas in the Declaration are **rooted** in **Enlightenment** principles, such as individualism, *the social contract theory* by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Montesquieu's *separation of powers*. The Declaration states **the cornerstone** principles of human rights:

- Men born and remain free and equal in rights.
- Natural rights of men are liberty, property, security, and **resistance to oppression**. The aim of all political associations is the preservation of these rights.
- Liberty consists in the freedom to do everything which injures no one else.
- Law can only prohibit such actions as are harmful to society.
- Law is the expression of **the general will**. Every citizen has a right to participate personally, or through his representative.
- No person shall **be accused**, arrested, or **imprisoned** except in the cases and according to the forms **prescribed** by law.
- All persons are held **innocent** until they shall have been declared guilty.
- No one can be discriminated over his opinions if their manifestation does not disturb the public order established by law.
- The free communication of ideas and opinions is one of the most precious of the rights of man.

When it was written, the rights in the Declaration were only **granted** to men. Moreover, there was still a clear divide between those who received the political rights outlined in the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen and those who did not. (3).....

Thus, the Declaration represented an idealistic vision rather than the reality of the time. It symbolized **the aspirations** that French people **aimed** to achieve in the future.

The US Declaration of Independence (1776)

It was approved on 4th July 1776 by the Continental Congress and announced the separation of 13 North American British colonies from Great Britain. Since then the day on which the Declaration of Independence was adopted, is celebrated in the United States as the great national holiday - the Fourth of July, or Independence Day.

The Declaration was drafted by Thomas Jefferson, and has a lot in common with the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. (4)..... The declaration highlighted the principle that all men are created equal.

The First Geneva Convention (1864)

The First Geneva Convention was established to improve the treatment of **wounded soldiers** and established the basis for international humanitarian law. The **core principles** established in the Convention maintained by the later Geneva Conventions include **the duty** to provide care to wounded and sick military personnel without discrimination, the requirement to respect and clearly mark medical personnel, transports, and equipment with the distinctive red cross on a white background.

The First Geneva Convention marked a significant step towards the protection of human rights during conflicts.

The US Constitution (1787)

The US Constitution, along with its Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments), outlines the fundamental rights and freedoms of American citizens, including freedom of speech, religion, right to fair trial and **due process of law**.

(5) Notably, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other international treaties reflect ideas initially articulated in the U.S. Constitution.

The United Nations Foundation (1945)

Established after World War II, the United Nations Organization was founded **to promote peace, security, and human rights worldwide**. The UN has been instrumental in developing international human rights standards and treaties. It helps **to secure funding** for various human rights projects and programs. The UN **raises awareness** about human rights issues through advocacy campaigns, **public outreach**, and educational programs. By highlighting critical human rights concerns and **mobilizing public opinion**, the UN contributes to a broader understanding and support for human rights worldwide. Also, the Organization **fosters partnerships** between the UN, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector.

These documents collectively represent the ongoing struggle and progress towards achieving and protecting human rights globally. They have laid the groundwork for modern human rights laws and continue to inspire efforts to ensure dignity, freedom, and justice for all.

ACTIVE VOCABULARY

Exercise 1. Read the following words and expressions from the text. Translate them into Ukrainian.

the establishment	
to precede	
mankind	
self-improvement	
the affirmation	
to mark significant milestones	
to evolve	
ancient	
to capture	
to liberate	
the abolition of slavery	
to proclaim	
freedom of worship	
to establish racial equality	
decrees	
a baked-clay cylinder	
cuneiform script	
to limit the power of the monarchy	

interference	
to establish certain legal rights	
cornerstone	
a landmark	
to set a precedent	
a draft	
to be rooted	
to outline	
Enlightenment	
resistance to oppression	
the general will	
to be accused and imprisoned	
to be prescribed	
innocent	
to be granted	
aspirations	
to aim	
to be approved	
the pursuit of happiness	
wounded soldiers	
core principles	
a duty	

due process of law	
to enshrine	
to promote peace, security, and human rights worldwide	
to secure funding	
to raise awareness	
public outreach	
to mobilize public opinion	
to foster partnerships	

Exercise 2. Read the text. Five sentences have been removed from the text.

Chose from the following sentences A-E the one which fits each gap:

- A. The key points and significance of this document are limits on monarchical power, the sovereignty of parliament, free elections and freedom of speech, the right to petition.
- B. It emphasized the inherent human rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness of all people.
- C. The principles enshrined it have influenced many other countries' constitutions and international human rights documents.
- D. The individuals who were granted these rights were known as active citizens, a status given to men who were French, at least 25 years old, paid taxes equivalent to three days of labor, and were not servants.
- E. It has been translated into all six official languages of the United Nations, and its principles are reflected in the first four Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Exercise 3. Translate the following sentences:

1. The establishment of a modern understanding of human rights is preceded by thousands of years of development of law.
2. He liberated the slaves, proclaimed the right of all people to choose their religion, and established racial equality.
3. These and other decrees were recorded on a baked-clay cylinder using the Akkadian language and cuneiform script.
4. It is one of the earliest documents to limit the power of the monarchy, free the church from state interference, and establish certain legal rights, including the right to a fair trial.
5. The Bill became a crucial step in the development of the rule of law and the protection of individual liberties, setting a precedent for the legal and constitutional framework in Britain and other democracies.
6. No one can be discriminated over his opinions if their manifestation does not disturb the public order established by law.
7. The UN raises awareness about human rights issues through advocacy campaigns, public outreach, and educational programs.
8. The core principles include the duty to provide care to wounded and sick military personnel without discrimination, the requirement to respect and clearly mark medical personnel, transports, and equipment with the distinctive red cross on a white background.
9. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other international treaties reflect ideas initially articulated in the U.S. Constitution.
10. The Organization fosters partnerships between the UN, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector.

Exercise 4. Link documents to the years they were created, adopted or founded.

The First Geneva Convention	1776	The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen	1787
The United Nations Foundation	539B.C	The English Bill of Rights	1215
The US Constitution	1789	Magna Carta	1689
The US Declaration of Independence	1945	The Cyrus Cylinder	1864

Exercise 5. Give answers to the following questions:

1. What events have led to the creation of the World's First Charter to Human Rights?
2. What basic human rights were mentioned in the Cyrus Cylinder?
3. Magna Carta was adopted in 1215, but some of its clauses are still relevant today. Name them.
4. Which form of government has the Bill of Rights affected?
5. Who was considered an active citizen according to the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen?
6. Who is the author of the US Declaration of Independence?
7. Why is the First Geneva Convention considered the basis for international humanitarian law?
8. Why the US Constitution become an example for other legal documents in the field of human rights?
9. When the United Nations Organization was founded?
10. How does the United Nations Organization promote human rights worldwide?
11. According to your opinion the adoption and creation of which document has made the most significant contribution to the development of human rights?

Exercise 6. Review the following definitions that relate to the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. Translate them into Ukrainian, then give your understanding of each term.

social contract

A theory or model that originated during the Age of Enlightenment that typically addresses the questions of the origin of society and the legitimacy of the authority of the state over the individual. Its arguments typically posit that individuals have consented, either explicitly or tacitly, to surrender some of their freedoms and submit to the authority of the ruler or magistrate (or to the decision of a majority) in exchange for protection of their remaining rights. The question of the relation between natural and legal rights, therefore, is often an aspect of this theory. The term comes from a 1762 book by Jean-Jacques Rousseau which discussed this concept.

separation of powers

A model for the governance of a state (or who controls the state) first developed in ancient Greece. Under this model, the state is divided into branches, each with separate and independent powers and areas of responsibility so that the powers of one branch are not in conflict with the powers associated with the other branches. The typical division of branches is legislative, executive, and judiciary.

natural law

A philosophy that certain rights or values are inherent by virtue of human nature and can be universally understood through human reason. Historically, natural law refers to the use of reason to analyze both social and personal human nature to deduce binding rules of moral behavior. Although it is often conflated with common law, the two are distinct. Common law is not based on inherent rights, but is the legal tradition whereby certain rights or values are legally recognized by virtue of already having judicial recognition or articulation.

Exercise 7. Choose one of the following topics and write an essay (300 words). Your essay should consist of 3 parts: introduction, main part, and conclusion. Please pay attention that your essay should include points for/against your opinion.

- Liberty consists in the freedom to do everything which injures no one else.
- Law is the expression of the general will.
- Law can only prohibit such actions as are harmful to society.
- The free communication of ideas and opinions is one of the most precious of the rights of man.

UNIT 3

PERSONALITIES IN THE HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

CHECK YOURSELF:

- Which prominent personalities in the field of human rights do you know?
- What specific contributions did these individuals make to the advancement of human rights?
- How did the historical and cultural context influence their work and the human rights issues they addressed?

TEXT

Human rights history is rich with numerous individuals whose **tireless efforts** and **unwavering commitment** have left **an indelible mark** on its development. Among them, Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Eleanor Roosevelt, Mahatma Gandhi, Vasyl Stus, and Malala Yousafzai **stand out** for their extraordinary contributions.

Martin Luther King Jr. is synonymous with the American civil rights movement. His leadership in the fight against **racial segregation** and **discrimination** was **pivotal**. King's philosophy of **nonviolent resistance**,



inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, mobilized millions in the struggle for justice. His iconic

"I Have a Dream" speech, delivered during the 1963 March on Washington, articulated a powerful vision of racial equality and has become a cornerstone of American civil rights rhetoric. King's efforts culminated in significant legislative achievements, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



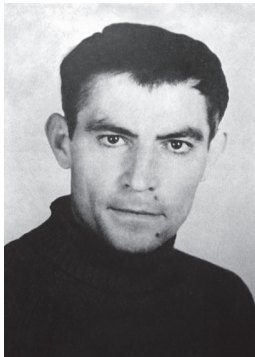
Nelson Mandela was a central figure in the fight against **apartheid** in South Africa. Imprisoned for 27 years for his activities against the apartheid regime, Mandela emerged as a global symbol of resistance to oppression. After his **release**, he led negotiations to **dismantle** apartheid and establish multiracial elections, becoming South Africa's first black president in 1994. Mandela's commitment to reconciliation and his efforts to foster a **peaceful transition from a divided society to a democratic nation** earned him **international acclaim** and the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.

Eleanor Roosevelt was a formidable advocate for human rights on the global stage. As the chair of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, she played a crucial role in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. Her dedication to social justice and equality extended beyond this achievement, as she tirelessly worked to ensure the principles



enshrined in the UDHR became a reality for people worldwide. Roosevelt's influence helped shape modern human rights discourse and policy.

Mahatma Gandhi was a **pioneering figure** in the use of **nonviolent civil disobedience** as a means to achieve social and political change. His leadership in the Indian independence movement against British colonial rule not only led to India's independence in 1947 but also inspired countless other movements worldwide. Gandhi's emphasis on nonviolence, **self-reliance**, and the moral imperative of fighting injustice has left a lasting legacy in the fields of human rights and social justice.



Vasyl Stus was a Ukrainian poet and dissident whose life and work symbolize the struggle for human rights in Ukraine. Stus faced **persecution** for his outspoken criticism of the Soviet regime and his advocacy for Ukrainian cultural and national rights. His struggle against oppression, even in the face of imprisonment and harsh conditions, made him a **martyr** for the cause of freedom and **human dignity**.

Malala Yousafzai is one of the youngest and most compelling voices in the fight for girls' education and women's rights. After surviving **an assassination attempt** by the Taliban for her advocacy, Malala has become a global symbol of the struggle against extremism and for the right of all children to receive an education. Her work has **garnered international recognition**, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, making her the



youngest-ever laureate. Malala's ongoing efforts continue to inspire and empower young girls worldwide to fight for their rights and education.

These individuals, through their courage, vision, and relentless pursuit of justice, have shaped the course of human rights history. Their **legacies** continue to inspire and guide contemporary efforts to secure equality, freedom, and dignity for all people.

ACTIVE VOCABULARY

Exercise 1. Read the following words and expressions from the text. Translate them into Ukrainian.

tireless efforts	
unwavering commitment	
an indelible mark	
to stand out	
racial segregation and discrimination	
Pivotal	
nonviolent resistance	
Apartheid	
Release	
to dismantle	
peaceful transition from a divided	
society to a democratic nation	
to earn international acclaim	

Formidable	
a pioneering figure	
nonviolent civil disobedience	
self-reliance	
Persecution	
a martyr	
human dignity	
an assassination attempt	
to garner international recognition	
Legacy	

Exercise 2. Read the following facts. Define which personality from the text is related to each of the facts.

1. Considered a world-known activist against apartheid in South Africa.
2. Played a crucial role in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948.
3. Became the Nobel Peace Prize winner in 2014 for outstanding achievements in promoting rights for children's education.
4. After being imprisoned for 27 years, emerged as a world symbol of struggle against racial discrimination.
5. Was a prominent activist against the oppressions of the Soviet regime.
6. Was an influential American civil rights leader and Baptist minister who played a pivotal role in the American civil rights movement during the 1950s and 1960s.

7. Was a pioneering figure in promoting human rights using nonviolent civil disobedience.

Exercise 3. Translate the following sentences into Ukrainian:

1. King's leadership in the fight against racial segregation and discrimination was pivotal.
2. After his release, Mandela led negotiations to dismantle apartheid and establish multiracial elections, becoming South Africa's first black president in 1994.
3. Mandela's commitment to reconciliation and his efforts to foster a peaceful transition from a divided society to a democratic nation earned him international acclaim and the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.
4. Eleanor Roosevelt tirelessly worked to ensure the principles enshrined in the UDHR became a reality for people worldwide.
5. Mahatma Gandhi was a pioneering figure in the use of nonviolent civil disobedience as a means to achieve social and political change.
6. His struggle against oppression, even in the face of imprisonment and harsh conditions, made Stus a martyr for the cause of freedom and human dignity.
7. Malala's work has garnered international recognition, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, making her the youngest-ever laureate.

Exercise 4. Find the words in the text that mean the following:

1. a situation in which people are governed in an unfair and cruel way and prevented from having opportunities and freedom
2. a person who suffers very much or is killed because of their religious or political beliefs, and is often admired because of it
3. in the past in South Africa, a system under which people of different races were kept separate by law, and white people were given more political rights and educational and other advantages

4. calm, serious, and controlled behaviour that makes people respect you
5. to destroy something, to make it come apart into separate pieces
6. a time when people vote in order to choose someone for a political or official job
7. something that is a part of your history or that remains from an earlier time

Exercise 5. Give answers to the following questions:

1. What was Martin Luther King Jr.'s role in the civil rights movement in the USA?
2. How did the philosophy of nonviolent resistance influence the struggle for human rights?
3. What were the significant legislative achievements that resulted from Martin Luther King Jr.'s efforts?
4. How did Nelson Mandela contribute to the fight against apartheid in South Africa?
5. What were the key results of Nelson Mandela's negotiations to dismantle apartheid in South Africa?
6. What role did Eleanor Roosevelt play in the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)?
7. How did Mahatma Gandhi's leadership in the Indian independence movement influence human rights and social justice worldwide?
8. Why did Vasyl Stus become a symbol of struggle for human rights in Ukraine?
9. How did Malala Yousafzai become a global symbol in the fight for girls' education and women's rights?
10. What are the lasting legacies of the personalities mentioned in the text in shaping human rights history?

Exercise 6. The personality of Nelson Mandela is known all over the world as a crucial symbol of the struggle against Apartheid, a strict segregation and discrimination policy that excluded black African majority from skilled, well-paying jobs, quality education, voting rights, and numerous other opportunities.

To understand more about the significant role of Nelson Mandela, follow the link (https://www.ted.com/talks/thula_simpson_how_did_apartheid_happen_and_how_did_it_finally_end?subtitle=en) and watch the TedTalk lecture “How did Apartheid happen, and how did it finally end?”. Then, answer the following questions:



How did Apartheid happen, and how did it finally end?

1. What were the living conditions of black Africans in South Africa during the regime of apartheid? Tell more about the human rights they had.
2. What happened in South Africa in 1976?
3. Who was the driving force of the protests in the 1960s-1970s in South Africa?
4. Which measures did the protesters use to express their requirements to the government?
5. What happened to the leaders of the anti-apartheid movement?

6. What was the reaction of the international community to the apartheid?
7. Observe the context of the development of the human rights movement in South Africa and USA in the 1960s – 1970s.

Exercise 7. Search on the Internet for information regarding the most significant Nobel Peace Prize winners in the 21st century. Choose from them the person whose achievements in the field of human rights you find the most relevant. Prepare a 5-minute presentation about this personality for your peers.

UNIT 4

INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CHECK YOURSELF:

- From your perspective, how human rights are being ensured worldwide?
- Are modern international law institutions effective in the promotion and protection of human rights?

TEXT

How Does International Law in the Field of Human Rights Work?

International human rights law is a dynamic and **multi-faceted** system designed to protect and promote human rights globally. Through a combination of treaties, monitoring bodies, international courts, national implementation, and the active involvement of civil society, this system seeks to ensure that human rights are respected and upheld worldwide. In this unit, we will observe how this framework unites global justice efforts.

Firstly, we should turn to the foundational documents and treaties, on which international human rights law is built.

– Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR): Adopted in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly, this seminal document outlines fundamental human rights but is not legally **binding**. It serves as a foundation for later treaties and conventions.

– International Covenants: These include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and

Cultural Rights (ICESCR), together, known as the International Bill of Human Rights. Both Covenants are **multilateral treaties** that **obligate signatory states** to respect and protect various human rights. They were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1966 and entered into force on 23 March 1976.

As of 2024, the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has 172 parties and the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights has been ratified by 173 states and six more signatories without ratification, most notably the People's Republic of China and Cuba. It is worth mentioning that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the only state that has tried to withdraw from the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This attempt has failed due to the absence of a **provision on withdrawal or denunciation** in ICCPR.

Compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is monitored through established mechanisms that ensure countries adhere to their obligations under these treaties. In particular, The Human Rights Committee (HRC) is the primary body responsible for monitoring compliance with the ICCPR. Countries that are parties to the ICCPR must submit periodic reports (usually every four years) to the HRC detailing how they are implementing the rights guaranteed by the Covenant. The Committee reviews these reports and provides comments and recommendations. Before the review of a state report, the HRC issues a "List of Issues" that highlights specific areas of concern. The state responds to these issues in writing before a dialogue with the Committee. After reviewing the state report and engaging in a dialogue with the state representatives, the HRC issues "Concluding Observations." These observations include positive aspects, areas of concern, and recommendations for improvement. Also, the HRC issues "General Comments" to provide authoritative guidance on specific articles or themes of the ICCPR. These comments help states interpret their obligations and **implement the provisions** of the Covenant more effectively.

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) is responsible for monitoring compliance with the ICESCR. Like the HRC, it uses such tools as State Reports, List of Issues and General Comments to monitor how parties to the Treaty **adhere** to it. Thus, both the ICCPR and ICESCR rely on monitoring, reporting, recommendations, and diplomatic pressure to hold states accountable, lacking direct **punitive mechanisms for enforcing compliance**. The primary focus is on encouraging states to adhere to their obligations and improve their human rights practices through constructive dialogue and recommendations rather than through direct punishment.

– Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). On December 18, 1979, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. This Convention became an international treaty on September 3, 1981, following its ratification by the twentieth country. By the Convention's tenth anniversary in 1989, nearly one hundred nations had committed to its provisions.

The Convention represents the culmination of over thirty years of efforts by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, a body created in 1946 to monitor women's conditions and promote their rights. Among international human rights treaties, this Convention holds a significant position by highlighting the rights of women. Its essence **aligns** with the **United Nations' goals to affirm** fundamental human rights, the dignity of individuals, and the equal rights of men and women. The document **spells out** the concept of equality and the means to achieve it, thus establishing an international bill of rights for women and **setting an agenda** for nations to ensure the realization of these rights.

– Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The UN General Assembly adopted the Convention in 1989 and it entered into force in 1990. As of 2024, 196 countries are party to it, including every member of the United Nations except the United States that hasn't ratified the Convention. The Convention says childhood is separate from adulthood, and lasts until 18; it is a special, protected time, in which children

must be allowed to grow, learn, play, develop and flourish with dignity. The Convention **went on** to become the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history and has helped transform children's lives.

– European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) is an international human rights treaty between the 47 states that are members of the Council of Europe.

The concept of creating the European Convention on Human Rights emerged in the early 1940s during the ongoing Second World War. It was designed to prevent governments from ever again dehumanizing and violating people's rights without consequence. In May 1948, after the war had concluded, the "Congress of Europe" convened in The Hague. This assembly brought together over 750 delegates, including leaders from civil society groups, academia, business, religious organizations, trade unions, and prominent politicians from across Europe, such as Winston Churchill, François Mitterrand, and Konrad Adenauer.

The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) was officially drafted by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg during the summer of 1949. More than 100 members of parliament from various European countries gathered to create the charter. The United Kingdom became the first country to ratify the convention in March 1951.

The ECHR came into full force on September 3, 1953. It was designed to be a straightforward, adaptable compilation of universal rights, allowing its interpretation to evolve with society's changing needs. The convention aimed not only to protect individuals from state abuse but also **to impose obligations on states to safeguard individual rights**. It has played a crucial role in elevating human rights standards and increasing awareness across Council of Europe member states and beyond.

The main result of the ECHR is the establishment of the European Court of Human Rights. It was founded in 1959 and is based in Strasbourg, France. The Court exists

to safeguard the ECHR, providing a forum for people who believe their rights have been denied, allowing them to have their cases heard.

The Court **has jurisdiction over** the 46 member states of the Council of Europe that have ratified the European Convention on Human Rights. Judgments of the Court legally bind those countries to stand by its rulings. Thus, through its decisions and the oversight of their implementation, the Court contributes significantly to the protection and promotion of human rights across Europe.

Another important tool for ensuring human rights worldwide is monitoring bodies. Among international organizations which monitor and enforce human rights standards are:

- **United Nations Human Rights Council.** This body serves as a global forum for dialogue, monitoring and reporting institution, technical assistant who helps countries strengthen their human rights frameworks. The UNHRC monitors human rights violations around the world through various mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN member states, Special Procedures, and independent experts. This monitoring helps to identify and document human rights abuses, bringing global attention to critical issues. Thus, the Council's work influences national and international policies and legislation. By highlighting human rights issues and providing recommendations, the UNHRC helps shape the global human rights agenda and encourages governments to adopt and enforce laws that protect human rights.
- Each major human rights treaty has an associated committee of independent experts that monitors compliance. For example, the Human Rights Committee oversees the implementation of the ICCPR.

Another vital tool that is used in adjudicating human rights issues are international courts. One of them is **the International Court of Justice (ICJ)**. ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, established in 1945 to promote international

peace and justice. The ICJ, based in The Hague, Netherlands, has two primary roles: resolving legal disputes between states and providing advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by UN organs and specialized agencies. Composed of 15 judges elected to nine-year terms, the ICJ represents the major legal systems of the world.

The Court's jurisdiction encompasses contentious cases, where it issues binding judgments on state disputes, and advisory proceedings, offering influential legal guidance. Despite lacking direct enforcement powers, the ICJ's decisions carry significant authority, fostering compliance through the United Nations Security Council when necessary.

Through its adjudications and advisory opinions, the ICJ significantly contributes to the development and clarification of international law, reinforcing the rule of law in international relations and aiding in the peaceful resolution of conflicts, promoting the protection of human rights.

For instance, one of the most well-known judgments of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the *Nicaragua v. United States* case, formally known as the *Case Concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua*. This landmark case, adjudicated in 1986, involved **allegations** by Nicaragua against the United States for its involvement in supporting Contra rebels and **conducting military operations** in Nicaraguan territory. In its judgment, the ICJ found the United States guilty of violating international law by supporting the Contras and engaging in direct military actions against Nicaragua. The Court ruled that the U.S. should cease its unlawful activities and pay reparations to Nicaragua. The U.S. rejected the ICJ's decision and did not comply with the reparations order. However, the case remains a crucial reference in discussions about international law, state conduct, and the efficacy of international judicial mechanisms.

Another legal body that plays a key role in maintaining human rights worldwide is **the International Criminal Court (ICC)**. The main distinguishing characteristic of ICC is that it is the first and only permanent international court with jurisdiction to

prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression. The idea of a permanent international court to prosecute individuals for serious crimes such as war crimes and crimes against humanity dates back to the **aftermath** of World War II. However, the geopolitical climate of the Cold War prevented these early proposals from gaining **traction**. Lately, the establishment of **ad hoc tribunals** for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in 1993 and Rwanda (ICTR) in 1994 by the United Nations demonstrated the need for a permanent judicial body to address serious international crimes.

In 2002 after numerous negotiations, the ICC was established due to the Rome Statute. As of 2024, the ICC has 124 member countries. Nowadays, the ICC faces challenges such as political opposition, non-cooperation by some states, and limitations in enforcement capabilities. Despite these challenges, it continues to play a critical role in the international justice system protecting human rights.

Another component of implementing international human rights is national legal systems. Since countries are primarily responsible for the protection of their citizens and their rights within their borders. In particular, this involves:

- incorporating treaties into domestic law: countries must adapt their legal systems **to align with** international treaties they have ratified;
- establishing human rights institutions: national institutions are **set up** to monitor human rights, address violations, and promote education and awareness among the citizens;
- providing access to justice: ensuring that victims of human rights abuses can seek **redress** through fair and independent judicial processes;
- engaging in international cooperation: countries often collaborate with international organizations to receive technical assistance, share best practices, and address human rights challenges collectively. They can also take part in international forums and mechanisms, which facilitate the adoption and implementation of human rights principles.

In that way, we see that the role of countries in implementing international human rights is multifaceted and requires a comprehensive approach that includes legal, institutional, and cooperative measures. By fulfilling these responsibilities, countries contribute to the global effort to uphold human dignity, equality, and justice for all individuals.

Another component of the implementation of human rights worldwide is the activities of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society. They act as **watchdogs**, ensuring that international human rights standards are upheld by documenting violations, providing legal assistance to victims, and engaging in public education campaigns. They often serve as the voice of **marginalized and vulnerable groups of the population**, bringing their issues to the **forefront** of public and political discourse.

Furthermore, NGOs and representatives of civil society collaborate with international bodies such as the United Nations to influence policy and promote the implementation of human rights treaties. Their **grassroots connections** enable them to understand and address local human rights issues effectively, **fostering a culture of human rights from the ground up**. Thus, through their persistent efforts, NGOs and civil society contribute to creating a world where human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled for everyone.

Thus, the protection of human rights is ensured by many components within their competence. The system of international law in the field of human rights has been formed over many years under the influence of new challenges and continues to be improved today.

ACTIVE VOCABULARY

Exercise 1. Read the following words and expressions from the text. Translate them into Ukrainian.

multi-faceted	
Binding	
multilateral treaties	
to obligate signatory states	
a provision on withdrawal or denunciation	
compliance with	
to implement the provisions	
to adhere	
punitive mechanisms for enforcing compliance	
to align with	
to affirm	
to spell out	
to set an agenda	
to go on	

to impose obligations on	
to safeguard individual rights	
to have jurisdiction over	
Allegations	
to conduct military operations	
the aftermath	
ad hoc tribunals	
Traction	
to align with	
to set up	
redress	
Watchdog	
marginalized and vulnerable groups of the population	
grassroots connections	

the forefront	
to foster a culture of human rights from the ground up	

Exercise 2. Translate the following sentences into Ukrainian:

1. International human rights law is a dynamic and multi-faceted system designed to protect and promote human rights globally.
2. Compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is monitored through established mechanisms that ensure countries adhere to their obligations under these treaties.
3. Organizations rely on monitoring, reporting, recommendations, and diplomatic pressure to hold states accountable, lacking direct punitive mechanisms for enforcing compliance.
4. The Convention aligns with the United Nations' goals to affirm fundamental human rights, the dignity of individuals, and the equal rights of men and women. The document spells out the concept of equality and the means to achieve it, thus establishing an international bill of rights for women and setting an agenda for nations to ensure the realization of these rights.
5. The Convention went on to become the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history and has helped transform children's lives.
6. The concept of creating the European Convention on Human Rights emerged in the early 1940s during the ongoing Second World War.
7. The Convention was designed to be a straightforward, adaptable compilation of universal rights, allowing its interpretation to evolve with society's changing needs.

8. The Court's jurisdiction encompasses contentious cases, where it issues binding judgments on state disputes, and advisory proceedings, offering influential legal guidance.
9. The main distinguishing characteristic of the International Criminal Court is that it is the first and only permanent international court with jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.
10. Non-governmental organizations act as watchdogs, ensuring that international human rights standards are upheld by documenting violations, providing legal assistance to victims, and engaging in public education campaigns.

Exercise 3. Find the words in the text that mean the following:

1. a specific clause or article within the document that outlines obligations, rights, or procedures that the parties to the convention agree to adhere to
2. the authority granted to a legal body, such as a court, to hear and make decisions on specific types of legal matters
3. an individual or organization that monitors and checks the activities of a particular sector, institution, or group to ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and ethical standards
4. to put right a wrong or give payment for a wrong that has been done
5. the segments of society that experience disadvantages, discrimination, and limited access to resources, opportunities, and rights due to various social, economic, political, or cultural factors
6. temporary courts established by international bodies such as the United Nations to address specific issues, usually related to serious violations of international law, including war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide
7. the leading or most important position in a particular area, field, or activity
8. something complex and composed of various elements, each contributing to the whole

9. agreements negotiated and signed by three or more sovereign states
10. original, unique characteristics

Exercise 4. According to the text, international law includes several components that contribute to ensuring human rights worldwide. These are: fundamental international agreements, monitoring bodies, international courts, states, non-governmental organizations and civil society. Write the measures, means and tools that each of the specified components uses in its activities according to the text:

International agreements	Monitoring bodies	International courts	States	Non-governmental organizations and civil society

Exercise 5. Answer the following questions:

1. What are the foundational documents of international human rights law?
2. When was the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) adopted, and why is it significant?

3. What are the two International Covenants that form the International Bill of Human Rights?
4. How many countries have ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as of 2024?
5. How many countries have ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as of 2024, and which notable countries are signatories but have not ratified it?
6. What is the role of the Human Rights Committee in monitoring compliance with the ICCPR?
7. What is the process the Human Rights Committee follows to review state compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
8. What tools does the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) use to monitor compliance with the ICESCR?
9. What is the primary focus of the ICCPR and ICESCR in terms of enforcing compliance?
10. When was the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) adopted, and when did it become an international treaty?
11. What role did the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women play in the creation of CEDAW?
12. How does the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) define childhood, and how many countries are parties to it as of 2024?
13. What is the historical context behind the creation of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)?
14. When was the ECHR officially drafted, and which country was the first to ratify it?
15. What is the role of the European Court of Human Rights in protecting human rights in Europe?
16. What are the main functions of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)?

17. How does the International Court of Justice (ICJ) contribute to international human rights protection?
18. What was the significance of the ICJ's judgment in the Nicaragua v. United States case?
19. What distinguishes the International Criminal Court (ICC) from other international legal bodies?
20. What are the primary responsibilities of countries in protecting their citizens' rights within their borders?
21. How do countries incorporate international treaties into their domestic legal systems?
22. What role do national human rights institutions play in the protection and promotion of human rights?
23. Why is providing access to justice important in ensuring the protection of human rights, and how is this achieved?
24. How do countries engage in international cooperation to address human rights challenges collectively?
25. How do non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society contribute to the protection of human rights?

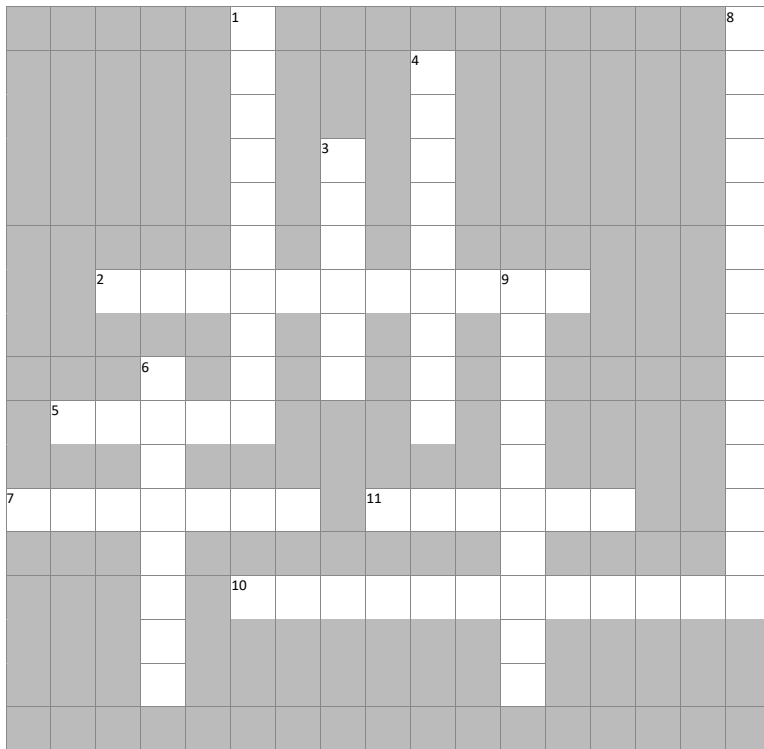
Exercise 6. Fill in the crossword with words from the text:

Across:

- 2. the process of completely removing or getting rid of something
elimination
- 5. a governmental institution with the authority to adjudicate legal disputes between parties and administer justice in civil, criminal, and administrative matters
- 7. obligatory, mandatory
- 10. the formal withdrawal from or rejection of a treaty by a signatory state
- 11. agreement

Down:

- 1. the imposition of a penalty or consequence on an individual or group for committing an offense, violating a rule, or breaking a law
- 3. a plan or list of items to be discussed or acted upon
- 4. an act or instance of breaking or disregarding a law, rule
- 6. the act or process of directing, advising, or providing instruction to someone, often to help them make decisions, solve problems
- 8. the unfair or prejudicial treatment of individuals or groups based on certain characteristics such as race, gender, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or other attributes
- 9. a duty or commitment to do something, often as a result of a legal, moral, or contractual requirement



Exercise 7. Search on the Internet for information on what are these 17 global goals and how the international community is achieving them. Write a short abstract (maximum – 300 words) on how the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals worldwide helps to promote and ensure human rights.

In 2015 the United Nations General Assembly set up a collection of 17 global goals called the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They are part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aim to address a range of global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

UNIT 5

HUMAN RIGHTS: FUTURE ISSUES

CHECK YOURSELF:

- In your opinion, what problems in the field of human rights does the international community face nowadays? Which of them are the most crucial?
- How do you see the future development of human rights?

TEXT

Modern and Future Problems of Human Rights

Human rights, though universally acknowledged, continue to face significant challenges in both contemporary and future contexts. As the world evolves, so do the issues that threaten our fundamental rights. Modern and emerging problems include the rights of women and children, the impact of digitalization, wartime law, governmental increasing limitation of human rights, and environmental issues.

Rights of Women and Children

For many years, women and girls have fought hard **to address violence and inequality** and fight for their human rights - to be educated, to access health care, to own property, to vote, and much more. While gains have been made, women around the world are still denied their human rights on the basis of their sex and gender identity.

Despite progress in gender equality, women and children remain among the most vulnerable populations worldwide. Issues such as **gender-based violence, discrimination in the workplace, and lack of access to education and healthcare** continue **to undermine women's rights**. In many parts of the world, **patriarchal**

norms and **systemic inequalities** persist, **hindering** women's **social, economic, and political empowerment**. Children, on the other hand, face challenges such as **child labor, trafficking**, and inadequate access to education and healthcare. The rights of children are often compromised in conflict zones, where they are subjected to recruitment as child soldiers, **physical and psychological abuse**, and **displacement**.

Overall, despite the global progress on girls' access to education, on the world, there are still places where girls and women **remain trapped in pockets of disadvantage** due to location and poverty but also due to other social and cultural characteristics.

In sub-Saharan Africa, girls remain far less likely to go to school at any education level. Over half of all children out of primary and secondary school are in Africa.

In Afghanistan, the mass exclusion of girls from education means that 60% of girls are not in primary (compared to 46% of boys) and 74% of girls are not in lower-secondary school (compared to 50% of boys).

Digitalization

The rapid advancement of digital technologies has transformed societies, bringing about both opportunities and challenges for human rights. While digitalization has **facilitated access to information, communication, and services**, it has also raised concerns about privacy, **surveillance**, and cyber security. The collection and misuse of personal data by governments and corporations threaten individuals' right to privacy.

- **92%** of Americans are concerned about their privacy when using the Internet. (TrustArc)
- Personal customer information (such as name, email, and password) is included in **44%** of data breaches. (IBM)
- **67%** of Americans are unaware of their country's privacy and data protection regulations. (LegalJobsIO)
- **60%** of U.S. adults don't know what "phishing" means. (Google/Harris Poll)
- **62%** of Americans don't believe it's possible to go through daily life without companies collecting data about them. (Pew Research Center)
- **76%** of users believe companies must do more to protect their data online (Global Consumer State of Mind Report 2021)
- **60%** of consumers believe companies routinely misuse their personal data. (KPMG)
- **68%** are concerned about the amount of data being collected by businesses. (KPMG)
- Only **3%** of Americans say they understand how current online privacy laws actually work in America. (Data Prot)
- **58%** of users said they would be willing to share data to avoid paying for online content. (Statista)

“Statistics showing data privacy trends”

(Source: Termly <https://termly.io/resources/articles/data-privacy-statistics/#statistics-showing-data-privacy-trends>)

Moreover, **the digital divide exacerbates existing inequalities, leaving marginalized communities without access to the benefits of digital technologies.** Ensuring **digital inclusion** and protecting individuals' rights in the digital age are critical challenges that require comprehensive policy responses and international cooperation.

Wartime Law

Armed conflicts continue **to pose severe threats** to human rights. Violations of international humanitarian law, including **the targeting of civilians, use of prohibited weapons, and denial of humanitarian aid**, remain prevalent in war zones. The principles of wartime law, designed to protect **non-combatants** and ensure **humane treatment of prisoners**, are often **disregarded** by warring parties.

The rise of non-state actors and the increasing complexity of modern **warfare** further complicate the enforcement of wartime laws. Strengthening international mechanisms **to hold perpetrators accountable** and ensuring compliance with humanitarian principles are essential to mitigating the human rights impacts of armed conflicts.

Governmental Control of Human Rights

Governmental control over human rights is **a double-edged sword**. While states are responsible for protecting and promoting human rights, some governments **abuse their power to suppress dissent and curtail freedoms**. Authoritarian regimes often use legal and extralegal means **to silence opposition, restrict media freedom, and undermine the rule of law**.

In democracies, the balance between national security and civil liberties is a contentious issue. Measures taken **to counter terrorism** and ensure public safety sometimes infringe on individual rights and freedoms. It is crucial to establish **robust** legal frameworks and oversight mechanisms to prevent abuses and **ensure that human rights are not sacrificed in the name of security**.

Environmental Problems

Environmental issues are increasingly recognized as human rights challenges. Climate change, pollution, **deforestation**, and **loss of biodiversity** have profound impacts on individuals' rights to health, food, water, and a safe and sustainable environment. Vulnerable populations, including **indigenous communities**, often bear the brunt of environmental degradation and are disproportionately affected by climate related disasters.

The recognition of the right to a healthy environment as a fundamental human right underscores the need for urgent and coordinated action to address environmental problems. Integrating human rights principles into environmental policies and

ensuring meaningful participation of affected communities are key to promoting environmental justice and sustainability.

The modern and future landscape of human rights is fraught with complex and evolving challenges. Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach that includes strengthening international legal frameworks, enhancing global cooperation, and promoting the active involvement of civil society. By addressing the rights of women and children, managing the impacts of digitalization, enforcing wartime laws, ensuring governmental accountability, and tackling environmental problems, the international community can work towards a more just and equitable world.

ACTIVE VOCABULARY

Exercise 1. Read the following words and expressions from the text. Translate them into Ukrainian.

to address violence and inequality	
gender-based violence	
discrimination in the workplace	
lack of access to education and healthcare	
to undermine women's rights	
patriarchal norms and systemic inequalities	

to hinder social, economic, and political empowerment	
child labor and trafficking	
physical and psychological abuse	
Displacement	
to remain trapped in pockets of disadvantage	
to facilitate access to information, communication, and services	
Surveillance	
digital inclusion	
to pose severe threats	
the targeting of civilians	
use of prohibited weapons	
denial of humanitarian aid	
non-combatants	

humane treatment of prisoners	
to be disregarded	
a warfare	
to hold perpetrators accountable	
a double-edged sword	
to abuse power to suppress dissent and curtail freedoms	
to silence opposition	
to restrict media freedom	
to undermine the rule of law	
to counter terrorism	
Robust	
to ensure that human rights are not sacrificed in the name of security	

Exercise 2. Translate the following sentences into Ukrainian:

1. Human rights, though universally acknowledged, continue to face significant challenges in both contemporary and future contexts.
2. For many years, women and girls have fought hard to address violence and inequality and fight for their human rights – to be educated, to access health care, to own property, to vote, and much more.
3. Such issues as gender-based violence, discrimination in the workplace, and lack of access to education and healthcare continue to undermine women's rights.
4. In many parts of the world, patriarchal norms and systemic inequalities persist, hindering women's social, economic, and political empowerment.
5. There are still places where girls and women remain trapped in pockets of disadvantage due to location and poverty but also due to other social and cultural characteristics.
6. While digitalization has facilitated access to information, communication, and services, it has also raised concerns about privacy, surveillance, and cyber security.
7. The digital divide exacerbates existing inequalities, leaving marginalized communities without access to the benefits of digital technologies.
8. Violations of international humanitarian law, including the targeting of civilians, use of prohibited weapons, and denial of humanitarian aid, remain prevalent in war zones.
9. The rise of non-state actors and the increasing complexity of modern warfare further complicate the enforcement of wartime laws.
10. Strengthening international mechanisms to hold perpetrators accountable and ensuring compliance with humanitarian principles are essential to mitigating the human rights impacts of armed conflicts.
11. Governmental control over human rights is a double-edged sword.

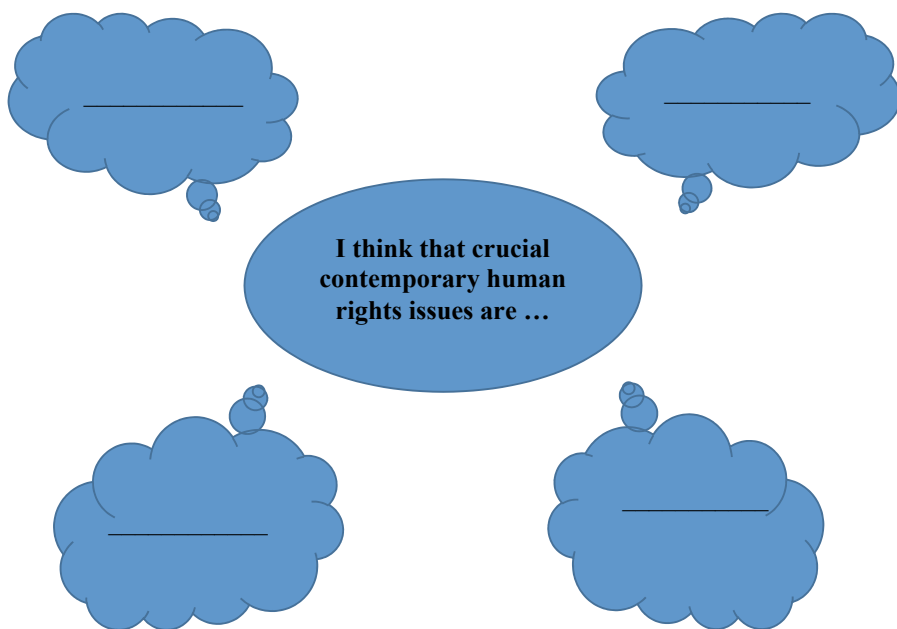
12. Authoritarian regimes often use legal and extralegal means to silence opposition, restrict media freedom, and undermine the rule of law.
13. Measures taken to counter terrorism and ensure public safety sometimes infringe on individual rights and freedoms.
14. Vulnerable populations, including indigenous communities, often bear the brunt of environmental degradation and are disproportionately affected by climate related disasters.
15. The recognition of the right to a healthy environment as a fundamental human right underscores the need for urgent and coordinated action to address environmental problems.

Exercise 3. Find the words and phrases in the text that mean the following:

1. unfair distribution of resources, opportunities, and privileges among people within a society or between different societies
2. individuals who are not actively participating in hostilities or armed conflict
3. the illegal trade and exploitation of people for various purposes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, and organ harvesting
4. societal rules and expectations that reinforce male dominance and privilege while subordinating women
5. the efforts and initiatives aimed at ensuring that all individuals and communities, particularly those that are underserved or marginalized, have access to and can effectively use information and communication technologies
6. groups of people who are native to a particular geographic region and have distinct cultural, social, and historical characteristics that set them apart from other populations
7. strong, resilient, and capable of withstanding stress or adverse conditions
8. the decline or extinction of various species of plants, animals, and microorganisms within a given ecosystem or across the planet

9. the systematic observation or monitoring of individuals, groups, or environments to gather information, ensure security, or enforce regulations
10. a metaphor used to describe something that has both positive and negative consequences

Exercise 4. Using information from the text and your own ideas, create a thinking map on the main contemporary human rights issues. Please indicate to which generation of human rights these issues are related to.



Exercise 5. Answer the following questions:

1. How do patriarchal norms impact the rights of women and children globally?
2. What are the main challenges facing girls' education in sub-Saharan Africa?
3. How does digitalization both facilitate and threaten human rights globally?
4. What are the primary concerns regarding privacy and digital rights in the era of digitalization?
5. How does the digital divide exacerbate existing inequalities in society?
6. What are some violations of international humanitarian law commonly observed in armed conflicts today?
7. How do non-state actors contribute to the complexity of enforcing wartime laws?
8. What are the implications of governmental control over human rights in authoritarian regimes?
9. How can democracies balance national security measures with civil liberties effectively?
10. In what ways do environmental issues pose challenges to human rights?
11. How do vulnerable populations, such as indigenous communities, experience the impacts of environmental degradation?
12. Why is the recognition of the right to a healthy environment crucial for addressing environmental challenges?
13. What international legal frameworks exist to protect human rights in conflict zones?
14. How can civil society play a role in promoting human rights amidst increasing governmental control?
15. What strategies can be employed to enhance digital inclusion and protect individuals' rights in the digital age?

Exercise 6. Watch the TED Talk lecture by Kristen Wenz *“What if a single human right could change the world?”*

(https://www.ted.com/talks/kristen_wenz_what_if_a_single_human_right_could_change_the_world/transcript?trigger=0s).



What if a single human right could change the world?

Complete the following tasks:

- **Class Discussion:** Reflect on how the ideas presented in the TED Talk relate to your own experiences or beliefs. How has the talk influenced your perspective and understanding of human rights?
- **Problem-Solving Task:** Identify a problem mentioned in the TED Talk and brainstorm potential solutions. Besides the practices mentioned in the text, present your solutions in a structured format. Discuss them with your peers.
- **Critical Review:** Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the TED Talk. What arguments were particularly convincing or unconvincing? Why?
- **Public Speaking Practice:** Use the TED Talk as a model for effective public speaking. Identify techniques used by the speaker, note them and practice incorporating them into your own presentations. Prepare a 5-minute

presentation for the class highlighting the main points and key arguments made by the speaker.

- **Future Predictions:** Based on the TED Talk, predict future trends or developments related to the topic. How might the ideas presented evolve over time?

Exercise 7. Choose one of the following topics and write an essay (approximately 500 words). Please pay attention that the essay includes a clear thesis statement, structure and body paragraphs.

- The Right to Education During a Pandemic: Online Learning and Access Inequality
- AI in the Workplace: Impacts on Labor Rights and Employment
- The Human Rights Implications of the War in Ukraine: Civilian Protection and Humanitarian Law
- The Role of International Law in Addressing Climate Change and Human Rights
- Combating Fake News: Balancing Freedom of Expression and the Right to Information

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Навчальне видання

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(за професійним спрямуванням)»
для здобувачів першого (бакалаврського)
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