



Proposal for the Fifth Phase of UN's World Programme for Human Rights Education (WPHRE) elaborated based on Public Consultation organized by IDDH and MNDH

Proposing organizations:

Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos (IDDH), a Brazilian Civil Society Organization that for 19 years has sought to strengthen democracy in Brazil and Latin America through international advocacy for human rights, especially with two programs focused on the United Nations: a) Civil society and the UN; and, b) Youth in the UN. The IDDH has consultative status with ECOSOC/UN (since 2016) and is part of the UN NGO Working Group on Human Rights Education and Learning (NGO WG on HREL).

Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos (MNDH), network that unites hundreds of organizations that work on Brazilian territory for over 40 years, with the central objective of organizing communities and articulating institutions to promote and defend human rights and democracy. The organization focuses on formulating and overseeing the implementation of human rights public policies. Actively participated in national conferences and the elaboration of the National Education of Human Rights Plan (Plano Nacional de Educação em Direitos Humanos). MNDH has a powerful presence in many mechanisms of the international protection of the human rights system.

Partnership: Rede Brasileira de Educação em Direitos Humanos (ReBEDH)

Institutional support: UNESCO in Brazil

IDDH and MNDH would like to thank the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for the opportunity to contribute to the upcoming report seeking the views of different stakeholders on target sectors, focus areas, and thematic human rights issues for the fifth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, which will be presented during the 54th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2023.

Public Consultation Presentation:

The Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos (IDDH) and the Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos (MNDH), in partnership with Rede Brasileira de Educação em Direitos Humanos (ReBEDH) and institutional support from UNESCO in Brazil, formulated a Public Consultation, from April 20th to May 15th, to listen to educational organizations and professionals that focus on human rights education about possible themes and priority groups for WPHRE's fifth phase (2025-2029).



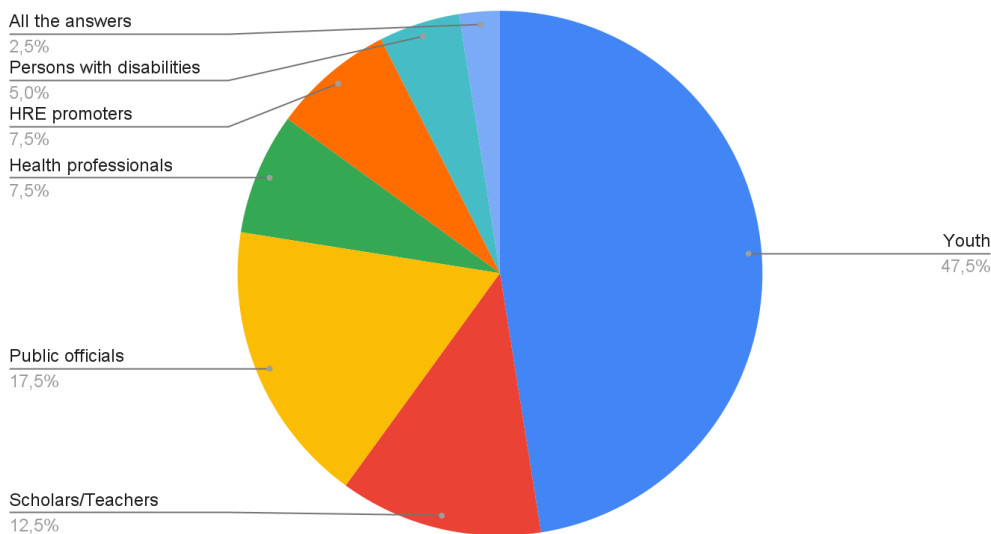
The consultation was performed at the national level, through social media and ReBEDH disclosure, seeking to embrace all Brazilian states, and requesting participation from formal and informal educators on human rights. This document aims to synthesize the suggestions provided by the participants and send them to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as a contribution of the Brazilian civil society on possible objectives for the fifth phase of WPHRE.

Results:

The Consultation received contributions from forty educators from elementary up to academic education levels and members of civil society from 4 of the 5 regions of Brazil (Northeast, Southeast, Central-West, and South).

The questionnaire asked the participants which could be possible target groups and segments for the fifth phase of WPHRE. The following groups were suggested in their respective order of indications: Youth (19), Judiciary/Executive/Legislative professionals or Public officials (7), Scholars/Teachers (5), Health professionals (3), HRE promoters from social movements (3), Persons with disabilities (2), and all answers (1). The data collected can be observed in the following graph:

Group/theme for the 5th phase of WPHRE



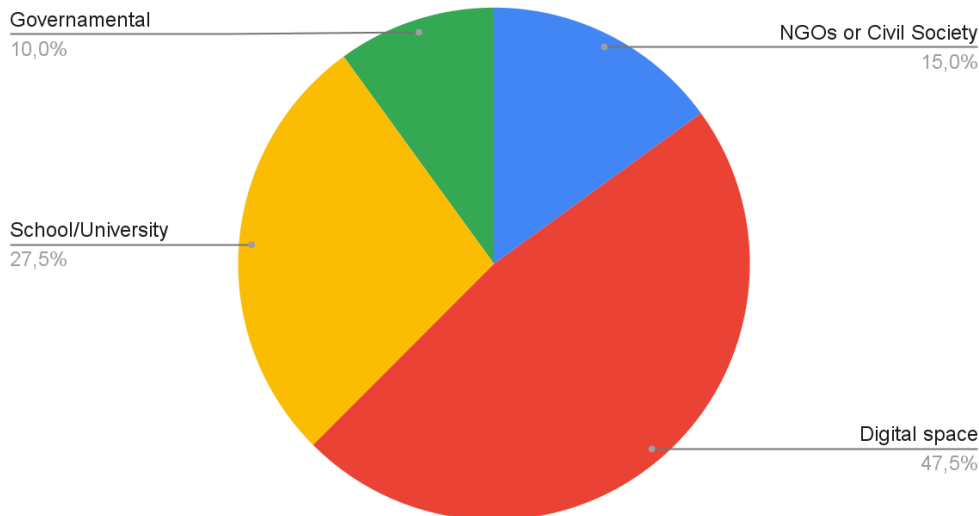
Additionally, participants were asked to highlight the major challenges concerning HRE in Brazil:

- Deconstruct prejudice towards LGBTQIA+, migrants, People of African Descent, indigenous peoples, and women;
- Increase the visibility and attention to the continuous diffusion and ongoing training for the utilization of digital media, also raising awareness about the lack of regulation of these vehicles of communication that disseminate fake conceptions concerning human rights;
- The extended reach of social media disclosure of fake news, compromising democracy and the peaceful coexistence among socially diverse groups;
- Social invisibility of the less favored that require more knowledge about their rights and thus have them respected;
- Lack of public policies aiming to reduce social inequality, rendering a larger human rights education unrealistic for some sectors of society;
- Free individuals from radical and alienating ideologies that oppose human rights;
- Knowledge about the history of colonized countries and its direct impact nowadays for the population;
- Cope, based on the principles of human rights, with violence in schools and universities stimulated by extremist right-winged individuals and hate speech;
- The lack of human rights education in the foundations of the new Brazilian High School curriculum, especially in public schools;
- The resistance of Legislative and Executive representatives to the development of human rights-based agendas; and
- The impact of the climate crisis on vulnerable groups (relation between racism and climate migrants).

With this, among all the responses obtained, it is important to highlight some of the key groups and themes identified, which the States should take more into account when developing policies aiming at human rights education and instruction: Illiteracy; Human rights culture; Democracy in education; Social inequality; Discrimination; Hate speech; Youth; LGBTQIA+; Migration and refugee; Women; Civil society participation; Persons with Disabilities; Homelessness; People of African Descent; Indigenous people; Quality of information; Racism; Digital media regulation; Education sector professionals' appreciation; Police violence; and Media visibility.

The Consultation also questioned possible spaces of action for the fifth phase of WPHRE: Digital spaces (19), Schools/Universities (11), NGOs or Civil Society (6), and Governmental organizations (4). The data can be observed below:

Possible spaces for the 5th phase of the WPHRE



Conclusion and proposal:

Based on the research conducted through public consultation and the expertise of the proposing organizations, we suggest to the States the continued focus on the Youth for the Fifth phase of the WPHRE, paying special attention to the present challenges existing in many of the States, through the increased use of digital platforms to oppose the growing wave of disinformation and hate speech that has substantially heightened violence, especially against less favored social groups.