



***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office
and other International Organizations in Geneva***

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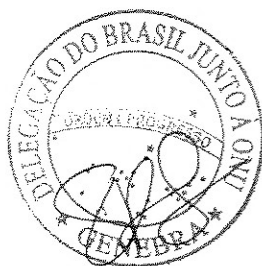
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No. 57/2020

The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honor to submit a copy of the responses from the Government of Brazil to the questionnaire, proposed in January 2020 by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, in preparation to her upcoming report on "The Cultural Dimension of the Right to Education".

The Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, February 20, 2020

To the
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FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL

**RESPONSE TO THE LETTER – DATED 16 JANUARY 2020 – FROM THE
SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION**

With regard to the letter – dated 16 January 2020 – from the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, the Brazilian Government presents the following information:

1. In 2006, Brazil drew up the National Plan on Human Rights Education, taking into account that quality education for all is an essential human right. The plan, which is based on principles of democracy, citizenship and social justice, seeks to foster a culture of human rights, and is structured along the following five axes: basic education, higher education, informal education, education and media, and education of professionals from the justice and public security systems.

2. The Law No. 11,645, of March 10, 2008, amended the National Education Law (“Lei Nacional de Diretrizes e Bases” - Law No. 9,394, December 20, 1996), to include in the official curriculum of the educational system the mandatory teaching about Afro-Brazilian and indigenous history and culture. The programmatic contents include the study of the history of the African continent and the social, economic and political contributions of Black and Indigenous peoples for the formation of the Brazilian society.

3. The National Guidelines for Human Rights Education were established by the Plenary Council of the National Council of Education in 2012, through the Resolution n.º 1 of May 30, 2012. These guidelines, which must be observed in the educational system and by its institutions, recognize human rights education as one of the fundamental axes of the right to education, by conceptualizing it as the use of educational conceptions and practices guided by human rights and by the recognition of citizens as subjects of rights.

4. The inclusion of contents relating to human rights education in the structure of the curricula of basic and higher education can be done in either a cross-cutting, specific or hybrid manner, depending on the combination of elements of transversality and disciplinarity.

5. *The guidelines further establish that human rights education should guide the initial and continued training of all education professionals, constituting a compulsory curricular component in courses for these professionals, and should also be present in the initial and continued training of all professionals from different knowledge areas.*

6. *On November 24, 2016, the Cooperation Agreement No. 01/2016 between the former Special Secretariat on Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice and Citizenship and the Ministry of Education was formalized, instituting the National Pact of Universities for the Promotion of Respect for Diversity, the Culture of Peace and the Human Rights (<http://educacaoemdireitoshumanos.mec.gov.br>). The objective of the Pact is to support higher education institutions in implementing human rights education in the field of tertiary education, with a view to combating discrimination and violence within the Universities. Therefore, the framework of the Pact includes the formulation, implementation, monitoring and dissemination of measures organised in the areas of teaching, research, extension, management and University and community coexistence. By 2019, there were more than 300 accessions to the Pact, 90% of which from tertiary education institutions and 10% from supporting entities (civil society organizations, public direct or indirect administration bodies at the federal, state, district or municipal levels, public foundations, national and international companies, among other entities).*

7. *In addition, the Human Rights and Cinema Festival (“Mostra Cinema e Direitos Humanos”) was created in 2006 by the former Secretariat of Human Rights of the Presidency of the Republic as a form of promotion of human rights education and culture, using the language of filmography. The festival was held in all the capitals of Brazil and created a positive agenda, fostering the debate on human rights in the society. Since 2006, over 400 films on various themes related to human rights were exhibited. In 2018, the festival celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*

8. Finally, in 2018, the National Program on Continued Education on Human Rights (PNEC-DH) was established. It constitutes an initiative of the former Ministry of Human Rights, in partnership with the National School of Public Administration (Enap), with the objective of offering courses, in the distance learning modality, on various human rights issues, made available on the platform of the Government Virtual School/EV.G (<https://evg.gov.br/>). The courses are designed to civil servants, educators, social advisors, community leaders, people in situation of vulnerability and others interested in human rights issues. Currently, more than 153 thousand registrations have been requested, in the thirteen courses on human rights available in the platform.
