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INPUT FOR THE HR75 YOUTH DECLARATION

1. As a youth-focused organization, The International Human Rights Commission recognizes

that the world is currently facing numerous challenges that have significant implications for the

future of human rights. These challenges include but are not limited to:

a) Inequality and social injustice:

The persistence of socio-economic disparities, discrimination based on race, gender,

sexuality, and other factors, and the marginalization of certain groups pose a threat to human

rights. These issues can limit access to education, healthcare, employment opportunities, and

political participation.

b) Climate change and environmental degradation:

The global climate crisis has far-reaching consequences for human rights, particularly for

vulnerable communities. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and resource scarcity can

lead to displacement, loss of livelihoods, and exacerbate existing inequalities.

c) Technological advancements:

While technological advancements have the potential to enhance human rights, they also

present challenges. Issues such as privacy breaches, online harassment, and the digital divide

need to be addressed to ensure that technology is used as a tool for empowerment rather than

oppression.

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d) Armed conflicts and violence:

Ongoing conflicts, terrorism, and violence in various parts of the world have severe

implications for human rights. These situations often result in displacement, loss of life, and

violations of basic human rights such as the right to life, liberty, and security.

To secure a better future for human rights, we envision a world where:

a) Equality and social justice are prioritized:

Efforts should be made to address inequalities and promote social justice through inclusive

policies, legislation, and programs. This includes combating discrimination, ensuring equal

access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, and empowering marginalized

communities.

b) Environmental sustainability is upheld:

Recognizing the interdependence between human rights and a healthy environment, we

advocate for the adoption of sustainable practices, the protection of ecosystems, and the

mitigation of climate change impacts. This will contribute to a future where individuals can enjoy

their right to a clean and safe environment.

c) **Technology** is harnessed responsibly:

We advocate for the responsible use of technology, ensuring privacy protection, digital literacy,

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and bridging the digital divide. This will enable individuals to fully exercise their rights in the digital age and prevent the misuse of technology for surveillance and control.

d) Peace and security are prioritized:

Promoting peaceful resolutions to conflicts, disarmament, and the protection of civilians are crucial for safeguarding human rights. We envision a future where violence is minimized, and individuals can live in safety and security.

2. To advance human rights in the future, we recommend the following actions to decision and policymakers, including governments, civil society, international organizations, the United Nations, and others:

a) Strengthen legal frameworks:

Governments should enact and enforce comprehensive legislation that protects and promotes human rights. This includes laws against discrimination, gender-based violence, and environmental degradation.

b) Invest in education and awareness:

Decision-makers should prioritize education on human rights, promoting awareness and understanding among all members of society. This includes integrating human rights education into school curricula, conducting awareness campaigns, and fostering a culture of respect for

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human rights.

c) Ensure accountability:

Governments and international organizations should establish mechanisms to hold individuals

and institutions accountable for human rights violations. This includes independent judiciary

systems, human rights commissions, and international tribunals.

d) Foster international cooperation:

Decision-makers should work collaboratively to address global challenges and promote

human rights. This includes strengthening international human rights frameworks, supporting

multilateral organizations, and engaging in diplomatic efforts to promote human rights globally.

e) Include youth voices:

Decision-makers should actively involve young people in policy-making processes,

recognizing their unique perspectives and experiences. Youth-led organizations should be

given platforms to contribute to decision-making, ensuring that policies are inclusive and

responsive to the needs of young people.

3. Young people have a crucial role to play in advancing human rights in the future. Some

commitments and actions they can take include:

a) Advocacy and activism:

Young people can raise awareness about human rights issues and advocate for change

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through campaigns, protests, and social media activism. They can engage with decisionmakers, participate in policy discussions, and demand accountability.

b) Volunteering and community engagement:

Young people can contribute to their communities by volunteering with organizations that promote human rights, participating in community projects, and supporting marginalized groups.

c) Education and awareness:

Young people can educate themselves and others about human rights, promoting understanding and empathy. They can organize workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to empower their peers and communities.

d) Collaboration and networking:

Young people can collaborate with other youth-led organizations, civil society groups, and international networks to amplify their voices and advocate for human rights collectively. This includes participating in conferences, forums, and youth-led initiatives.

e) Sustainable practices:

Young people can adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives, promoting environmental conservation and responsible consumption. By reducing their carbon footprint and advocating for sustainable policies, they can contribute to the protection of human rights and the

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environment.

In conclusion, as a youth-led or youth-focused organization, we recognize the challenges the world faces today and their impact on the future of human rights. We envision a future where equality, social justice, environmental sustainability, and technological responsibility are prioritized. To achieve this, decision-makers should strengthen legal frameworks, invest in education and awareness, ensure accountability, foster international cooperation, and include youth voices. Young people can contribute by engaging in advocacy, volunteering, education, collaboration, and promoting sustainable practices. Together, we can work towards a future where human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled for all.

Thank You

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