

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights – The Quiz

1. The anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights falls on **10 December**, but in which year did the General Assembly of the United Nations originally adopt the declaration?
 - a.** 1918
 - b.** 1948
 - c.** 1968
2. How many articles does the Universal Declaration of Human Rights contain?
 - a.** 12
 - b.** 18
 - c.** 30
3. So far the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been translated into how many languages?
 - a.** 50 – 99
 - b.** 100 – 300
 - c.** over 300
4. Which of these people has forfeited his human rights?
 - a.** Slobodan Milosevic
 - b.** Nelson Mandela
 - c.** Augusto Pinochet
5. Which of these rights are covered by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
 - a.** Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.
 - b.** Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.
 - c.** Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
6. Who sets out international human rights standards?
 - a.** State governments
 - b.** The United Nations
 - c.** The International Red Cross
 - d.** Amnesty International
7. Which is the most widespread violation of human rights today?
 - a.** Torture of political prisoners
 - b.** Discrimination against ethnic minorities
 - c.** Insufficient state protection of the rights of women and girls
 - d.** Forced child labour
8. Which of the following are covered by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
 - a.** Privacy of postal correspondence
 - b.** Compulsory resettlement
 - c.** Discrimination because of homosexuality
9. Which of the following organisations has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?
 - a.** Terre des Hommes
 - b.** Greenpeace
 - c.** Amnesty International
10. How can human rights be protected?
 - a.** In the courts
 - b.** Through human rights organisations
 - c.** Through individual involvement and the courage of one's own convictions

How well do you know the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? You can test yourself (and your friends) with this quiz. Some of the questions have more than just one correct answer. You'll find the answers on the back of the page. Good luck!

Answers and notes

1. **The correct answer is (b): 1948.** The Declaration was ratified through a proclamation by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948. A total of 48 states voted in favour of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. There were no votes against the declaration and only eight abstentions. This was considered a triumph as the vote unified very diverse states and conflicting political regimes. By the way, 1968 was the International Year of Human Rights.
2. **The correct answer is (c): 30 articles.**
3. **The correct answer is (c):** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is currently available in **331** languages and dialects. This makes it the most translated document in the world. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has even been recognized by the Guinness Book of Records for this achievement. You can look up your own language on **www.unhchr.ch/udhr/index.htm**
4. **The correct answer is: none.** All human beings are born free and possess the same equal and inalienable basic rights and basic freedoms; nobody can lose their entitlement to the universal human rights.
5. **The correct answer is: all three are covered** – by articles 13.2, 24 and 23.1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights covers both **civil and political rights** (e.g. the right to freedom of opinion and expression, protection against torture and cruel or degrading treatment) as well as **economic, social and cultural rights** (e.g. the right to education and the right to participate in cultural life).
6. **The correct answer is (b): The United Nations.** It is up to state governments to pass and enforce laws designed to protect human rights in their own countries. The International Red Cross and Amnesty International do not set human rights standards, but they do help to protect human rights and to support people who are victims of human rights violations.
7. **The correct answer is (c): insufficient state protection of the rights of women and girls.** For this reason Amnesty International is launching a campaign on 8 March 2004 directed against this type of violence.
8. **The correct answer is: all three are covered.** See article 12 (privacy of correspondence), article 13 and 25 (compulsory resettlement) and article 2 (discrimination because of homosexuality).
9. **The correct answer is (c): Amnesty International** in 1977.
10. **The correct answer is: all three.** Victims of human rights violations can also contact the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva by fax: (+41 22) 917-0092.

How did you score?

Now count how many questions you answered correctly.

- 0 to 4:** Nobody's perfect – you can read up the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the Internet **<http://www.un.org/rights>**
- 5 to 7:** You're well informed about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Keep up the good work!
- 8 to 10:** Excellent! You can design next year's quiz!

Whatever your score, you can help!

Amnesty International aims to ensure that human rights are respected and maintained.

If you're interested in finding out more about us or want to support our work, contact the English-speaking group in Berlin (englishaiberlin@yahoo.com) or take a look at the Amnesty International website: www.amnesty.org. This page contains links to Amnesty International sites all over the world.

Our work is dependent on donations, which are used to finance research and reports on cases of human rights violations, to react to such violations and to raise public awareness of human rights issues.

You can support us by making a donation to

Bank: BKD Duisburg / Bank code (BLZ): 350 601 90 / Account no.: 8090100

or by becoming a member of Amnesty International.