



Message of the Universal Esperanto Association on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, 10 December 2022

Next year, on 10 December 2023, the world will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Between now and then, the United Nations anticipates a year-long campaign under the title “Dignity, Freedom and Justice for All!”

Already in the year 2022, the Esperanto movement is celebrating its own human rights jubilee: our organization, the Universal Esperanto Association, meeting in Bern, Switzerland, in 1947, for the first time since the end of the Second World War, declared that “respect for human rights is an essential condition for its work.” Thus, it anticipated the coming into force of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 by over a year; and thus, from that day to this, it has supported the work of the United Nations and UNESCO for human rights generally and language rights particularly.

UEA’s position regarding human rights, according to the resolution of 1947, “is dictated by the ideas and goals of the Esperanto movement.” The movement for Esperanto is indeed related to the dissemination of an easy international language for everyone’s use, but the ideal behind that movement is still broader: the promotion of peace and collaboration among humankind on a worldwide scale.”

In its 1947 resolution, the Universal Esperanto Association declared that “it is sympathetic to all movements which try, on an apolitical basis, to carry out ideas the same as or similar to the goals of the Association.” In other words: UEA works with all organizations that aim to advance the abovementioned “dignity, freedom and justice for all.” We invite all such organizations to cooperate with us for the common good.

Celebrating the 75th jubilee of its formal recognition of human rights, the Association calls on all people and organizations of good will to work together for the realization of basic human rights and for their expansion for the prosperity and sustainability of our planet.