



Message of the Universal Esperanto Association on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 21 March 2024

Speakers of the International Language Esperanto can be found in all parts of the world, among individuals belonging to many peoples, cultures and ways of life. They value the common elements that allow for communal life on our planet and they attest to such connections through the use of an additional, international language for all people. They use Esperanto also to explore the richness of the various cultures of the world.

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 21 March 2024, the speakers of Esperanto, in solidarity with the United Nations, draw attention to the fact that efforts to separate people into exclusionary, non-scientific and bogus categories are the root causes of wars and other forms of injustice: such efforts sow misunderstanding, suspicion and violence.

We assert and reassert that all doctrines of racial superiority and inferiority are scientifically false, morally reprehensible, socially unjust and dangerous, and must be rejected.

Over 75 years ago, following the catastrophic destruction of world war, the international community, or, more precisely, “we the peoples”, decided, through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to work to create a world of full rights for all individuals “without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.” The Declaration continues to be the basic guiding principle of the Universal Esperanto Association, which, accordingly, firmly opposes all forms of unjust discrimination – including discrimination on the basis of the language that one speaks and discrimination on the basis of race and racism. We call on the United Nations to continue its work against racism and all forms of unjust discrimination, and pledge our support for such work.