

Structure

The practices are organized according to five areas of action, in line with the Plan of Action (2005-2009) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (2005-ongoing), a global initiative proclaimed in December 2004 by the United Nations General Assembly to further the implementation of human rights education programmes in all sectors (resolution 59/113A). Each section includes a short description of the individual practices and details on how to obtain more information. Throughout the *Compendium*, “Additional resources” sections highlight relevant tools produced by the four partner organizations. The *Compendium’s* CD-ROM includes full or partial examples of the selected practices as well as related resources available through the partner organizations.

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS OF EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND NORTH AMERICA: A COMPENDIUM OF GOOD PRACTICE

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For further information about this publication,
please contact:

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
Human Rights Department
Al. Ujazdowskie 19
00-557 Warsaw
Poland
E-mail: hre@odhr.pl
<http://www.osce.org/odhr>

For further information about the World Programme
for Human Rights Education, please contact:

World Programme for Human Rights Education
c/o Methodology, Education and Training Unit
Office of the UN High Commissioner
for Human Rights
8-14 avenue de la Paix
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
E-mail: wphre@ohchr.org
[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/
training/programme.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/training/programme.htm)



HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS

OF EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA

AND NORTH AMERICA:

A COMPENDIUM OF GOOD

PRACTICE



**HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION
IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS OF
EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND NORTH AMERICA:
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The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR), the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are pleased to announce their forthcoming publication *Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice*. This is the result of joint efforts by the four partner organizations, each of which has a history of engagement with human rights education, education for democratic citizenship, and education for mutual respect and understanding. The four partners contracted the non-governmental organization Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) as institutional consultant to implement this project under their guidance and coordination. The English version of the *Compendium* is scheduled for publication in the summer of 2009. French and Russian versions will be available later in 2009.



Good practices

This publication collects 101 exemplary practices from Europe, North America and Central Asia in the area of human rights education, education for democratic citizenship, and education for mutual respect and understanding. These resources have been developed for primary and secondary schools, as well as teacher training institutions in the geographical area of the OSCE that is also covered by UNESCO, OHCHR and partially by the Council of Europe.

OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization with 56 participating States: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan.

The practices were submitted by ministries of education, universities, international and national non-governmental organizations, and individual schools. The submission guidelines defined a “good practice” as a strategy resulting in the successful teaching and learning of human rights values and competencies that could be demonstrated through a learning activity, a methodological tool, an audio-visual resource or a

documented programme design intended for the formal education sector. Those included in the *Compendium* were selected on the basis of their innovative approaches, effectiveness, adaptability and diversity.



Purpose and target audience

The *Compendium* aims to support quality teaching in these areas, to be a resource and inspiration for educational policymakers and administrators, teachers, teacher trainers, non-formal educators and all other interested actors, as well as to facilitate networking and the exchange of experience among education professionals.

Definition of human rights education

Human rights education (HRE) has been defined as education, training and information aimed at building a universal culture of human rights. A comprehensive education in human rights not only provides knowledge about human rights and the mechanisms that protect them, but also imparts the skills needed to promote, defend and apply human rights in daily life. The term “human rights education” is used in this publication as an umbrella term to include also education for democratic citizenship and education for mutual respect and understanding, which are all based on internationally agreed human rights standards and are seen as interconnected and essential within educational systems in order to prepare youth to be active, responsible and caring participants in their communities as well as at the national and global levels.