

Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind: best practices

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP1)

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that everyone is entitled to the rights and freedoms set forth therein, 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, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP2)

***Reiterating* the call of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms by teaching and education and to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance by progressive measures, national and international, (based on PP8, UDHR)**

Guided by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which reaffirms, inter alia, the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter, other instruments relating to human rights, and international law, and that the universal nature of these rights and freedoms is beyond question, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP3)

Reiterating that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP4)

Reaffirming that all cultures and civilizations in their traditions, customs, religions and beliefs share a common set of values that belong to humankind in its entirety, and that those values have made an important contribution to the development of human rights norms and standards, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP5)

Stressing that traditions shall not be invoked to justify practices **contrary to human dignity and violating international human rights law**; ~~universal human rights norms and standards~~, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP6)

Recalling its previous resolutions on the issue, in particular 12/21 of 2 October 2009 and 16/3 of 24 March 2011, (A/HRC/RES/16/3, PP7)

Noting the work of the Advisory Committee in accordance with its resolution 16/3 on the preparation of a study on how a better understanding and appreciation of traditional values of dignity, freedom and responsibility can contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights, (New)

- 1. Reaffirms that better understanding and appreciation of traditional values shared by the entire humanity and embodied in universal human rights instruments contribute to promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms worldwide; (A/HRC/RES/16/3, op 3 and 4, merged, streamlined)**
2. Notes **Recalls** the important role of family, community, society and educational institutions in upholding and transmitting these values, which contributes to promoting respect for human rights and increasing their acceptance at grassroots and calls upon all States to strengthen this role through appropriate positive measures; (A/HRC/RES/16/3, OP5)
- 3. Stresses that human rights derive from the dignity and worth inherent in human person; (Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, PP2)**
- 4. Notes that traditional values, especially those shared by the entire humanity, can be practically applied in the promotion and protection of human rights and upholding human dignity, in particular in the process of human rights education; (New)**
- 5. Takes note of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee¹ on the progress of work on a study on how a better understanding and appreciation of traditional values of dignity, freedom and responsibility can contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights; (New)**
- 6. Requests the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to collect information from the United Nations Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the best practices of applying traditional values while promoting and protecting human rights and upholding human dignity and to present the summary of this information to the Council before its 24th session; (New)**
7. Decides to remain seized of the matter. (A/HRC/RES/16/3, OP7)

¹ A/HRC/AC/9/L.3