

The Unitit Nations

Universal Declaration o Human Richts

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Scots Language
Society

furthset bi The Scots Language Society
www.lallans.co.uk
Perth 2004

wi thanks til the Scots Language Resource Centre

1 899920 04 8

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The United Nations, the international organisation that exists to promote international cooperation, to maintain peace and to ensure global security, was established on the back of the failure of the League of Nations (founded 1919) to fend off the global war of 1939-45. Its founding principles were wrought in colloquies between representatives of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States at Dumbarton Oaks in the United States, August-October 1944. In 1945, the Dumbarton Oaks deliberations were codified into the *United Nations Charter* at the United Nations Conference on International Organisation in San Francisco by delegates from 50 countries. The Charter was signed by representatives of the 50 countries on 26 June 1945. Poland, not represented at the conference, signed later and became one of the original 51 Member States.

On 24 October 1945 the United Nations officially came into existence when the Charter was ratified by a majority of the signatories including China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. One of its first actions was to establish the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The Commission in its first sessions put the making of an international instrument for human rights at the heart of the agenda. It set up a drafting committee for the task and after more than two years of deliberations (1946-8) the Commission put forward for adoption the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. On 10 December 1948, at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris, a vote among the Member States showed the majority was in favour and the Declaration was adopted by the United Nations.

The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* is one of the most famous and influential international instruments of the 20th century. Historically, it was the first time that 'natural' human rights – rights taken as universally extending to all human beings without discrimination and without qualification hinging on the whim or will of individual rulers or authorities – had been agreed to and adopted by an international organisation. This was a milestone achievement for the newly founded United Nations – and the more so, seen as how its Member

States had a different ideologies, political systems, religious backgrounds, cultural upmak and economic situations. The adoption o the Universal Declaration representit a common statement o ettles and aspirations gey seendil seen in the global arena.

Since 1948, the Declaration hes been the inspiration for mair nor 60 human richts instruments that, taen thegither, maks for an international standart o human richts. This includes the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Richts* and the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Richts*; baith legally bandin treaties. Thir twa instruments, in along wi the Universal Declaration, maks for the *International Bill o Richts*. Anither example is the *European Convention on Human Richts* draftit in the 1950s. This Convention hes been incorpratit intil UK law in under the Human Richts Act 1998. The Scotland Act 1998 as weel, that establishes the Scots Paurliament and Scots Executive, gars ilka public bodie in Scotland, the Paurliament and Executive includit, wul no can act onyroads contrar til the Convention.

On the adoption o the 1948 Universal Declaration, the General Assemle o the Unitit Nations proclaimed the wish that Member States gar the principles o the Declaration be universally furthset and kent. As pairt o the ettle tae meet this aspiration, the Human Richts Commission seeks tae set the Declaration ower intil aw the warld's languages. A guid three-fower hunder language versions nou exists and mair aye gets eikit year on year. Seein as ane o the keystone principles o the Declaration is the universal application o its airticles tae aw human beings without distinction or discrimination on ony grounds, this project is efter allouin aw peoples ingait tae the blad without hinnerance on grounds o language. It staunds, tae, as a symbol o the principle o inclusivity that liggs at the hert o the Declaration. Last, its owersets aw serve tae acknowledge the braid diversity o peoples and cultures upon the whilks a just, weel and haill future for humanity wul aye lippen.

Ilkane o the language versions furthset by the Commission begins wi a language profile that pits the leid intil its historical and linguistic context. This Scots version follaes the same patten.

Profile

Native Name

Scots

Total Speakers

1.5 million (GRO estimate, 1996)

Uis by Countrie

Scotland and N. Ireland/ UK

Background

It belongs to the West Germanic swatch o the Indo-European family and has been one o the languages o State in Scotland. Its roots is in the Anglian o Northumbria. Celtic, Scandic and French influences was strong and its expressive literature includes one o the first oversets o Virgil's (Latin) 'Aeneid' won until a modern European tongue (1512). Its history cannot be right kept ootwith the context o the linguistic diversity o airly Britain.

In the first millennium A.D. mainly Celtic tongues was spoken on the island. This includes Cymric (the forebear o modern Welsh) in what is now the Scottish Borders. Briefly, three new language groups intronitted theirselves until the northern airts in the period. In the west, Scots tribes was bringin another Celtic leid, Gaelic, ower frae Ireland. In the east, the Anglian speakers found along the middle seaboard o Britain between the Humber and the Forth was part o the influx o Germanic tribes frae Europe efter A.D. 410. (This pits modern Scots until the same subswatch o tongues that has produced international English.) A third group, Danes and Scandinavians, brocht mair Germanic leids (Norse) frae ower sea in the 9-11th centuries. The 'native' Celtic leids didna haud oot. Pictish, lang the principal language north o the Forth, was awa mebbes by the 10th century (nae siccar record bides o its linguistic family) and the Scottish state stertan tae kythe aroun A.D. 900 (Alba) was at first a Gaelic kinrik.

Northumbria, tae, wes aye raxin its boonds. The leids o thir twa 'emergent' states, Gaelic and Anglian, met and mixer-maxtert in whit is nou the Lothians and Borders whaur the 'native' Cymric tung wes displaced. It wes the Anglian tung, Inglis, under a Scots kinrik that bure the gree. The balance wes likely cowpit in the reing o Malcolm III (1054-93). By the 14th century Inglis wes spoken oot-thru the lawlands o Scotland. (Gaelic hertlands wes nou in Gallowa and the Heilands.) By the hinend o the 15th it hed taen the name Scottis (Scots). In the east it raxed as faur north as the umwhile Norse-speakin Orkneys and Shetlands. At the stert o the 17th century, colonies wes tae be fund in the north o Ireland (Ulster).

Efter the monarch heritit til the English throne (1603) mony o Scotland's institutions, includin Paurliament (in 1707) wes yokit til its suddron neibor and the leid tint national status. It aye gaed its ain gait in sindry dialects, but the 'centre' wes nou Lunden, a capital hyne awa in the sooth. Mony o the literati felt pittin on tae adopt the English o the suddron metropole, a close but hauf-fremmit sister tung. This wes enforcit wi Education Acts in the 19th and 20th centuries that pressed 'formal' English on aw Scotland's commonties as the ae standart in public claik. Thae oncomes wes aye coonterd wi assertions o the smeddum o the leid in letters - Burns and MacDiarmid among the maist kenspeckle exponents. Speakers the-day commonly hes the dichotomie o seein Scots globally kent in literature without haean siccar status as a medium o daily-day communication. Since 2001 it hes recognition in under the European Chairter for Regional or Minority Leids.

ORGANISATION

Scots Leid Associe

OWERSSET

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ETHNOLOGUE CODE

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Universal Declaration o Human Richts

Adoptit and proclaimed by General Assemlie resolution 217A (III) o 10 December 1948

On December 10, 1948 the General Assemlie o the Unitit Nations adoptit and proclaimed the Universal Declaration o Human Richts shawn hereablo in its ful text. Efter this historic act the Assemlie cried on aw Member States tae publicise the text o the Declaration and tae gar it be 'disseminatit, displayed, read and exponed principally in scuils and ither learning institutions, wi nae distinction on grounds o the political status o countries or territours.'

Inning

Forsameikle as kenning for the inherent dignity and for the richts, equal and nane-alienable, of aw members o the human faimly is the foond o freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Forsameikle as misregaird and contemption for human richts hes resultit in barbour acts that hes scunnert the conscience o mankind, and the advent of a world whaur aw human sowels enjoys freedom o thocht and speech, and quittance frae dearth and dreid hes been proclaimed the tapmaist aspiration o the commonty,

Forsameikle as it is necessar, gin man be no gart tak recourse tae rebellion as a hinmaist resort conter tirannie and dounhaunderment, that human richts shuld be beildit by the rule o law,

Forsameikle as it is necessar tae gar freendly relations atween nations aye win forrit,

Forsameikle as the peoples o the Unitit Nations hes in the Chairter affirmit aince mair their faith in fundamental human richts, in the dignity and worth o the human person and in the equal richts o men and wemen and hes resolved tae promote social progress and better standarts o life in braider freedom,

Forsameikle as Member States hes gien their hecht tae win, in compluterance wi the Unitit Nations, the promotion o universal tent and respect for human richts and fundamental freedoms,

Forsameikle as a common understaunding o thir richts and freedoms is o the greatest importance for the ful kenning o this hecht,

Nou, syne,

The General Assemлие

Proclaims this **Universal Declaration o Human Richts** as a common standart o achievement for aw peoples and aw nations, tae the end that ilka individual and ilka organ o society, aye haudan in mind this Declaration, shal ettle throu teaching and lear tae promote respect for thir richts and freedoms and throu progressive meisures, national and international, mak sover their universal and effective kenning and tenting, baith amang the folk o the Member States theirsels and amang the folk o territours in ower their jurisdiction.

Airticle 1

Aw human sowels is born free and equal in dignity and richts. They are tochered wi mense and conscience and shuld guide theirsels ane til ither in a speirit o britherheid.

Airticle 2

Awbody is entitelt til aw the richts and freedoms furthset in this Declaration wi nae distinction o ony kind, sic as race, colour, gender, language, religioun, political or ither opinioun, national or social origin, gear, birth or ither status.

Mair, nae distinction shal be made on the grunds o the political, jurisdictional or international status o the countrie or territour a bodie belangs, whuther it be staund-alane, trust, nane-self-governing or in ower ony ither haims o soverantie.

Airticle 3

Awbody hes the richt tae life, liberty and security o person.

Airticle 4

Naebody shal be hauden in thirldom or slavery; slavery and the slave trade shal be prohibit in aw their forms.

Airticle 5

Naebody shal be gart thole torture nor ill-kindit, inhuman nor bemeanan treatment nor punishment.

Airticle 6

Awbody hes the richt awgaits tae kenning as a person afore the law.

Airticle 7

Aw are equal afore the law and entitelt wi nae distinction tae equal beilding o the law. Aw are entitelt tae equal beilding conter ony discrimination in skaith o this Declaration and conter ony incitement tae sic discrimination.

Airticle 8

Awbody hes the richt til an effective remeid aff o the competent national tribunals for acts that daes skaith til the fundamental richts grantit him o the constitution or by law.

Airticle 9

Naebody shal be gart thole wulsome arrest, detention nor exile.

Airticle 10

Awbody is entitelt in ful equality til a fair and public hearing frae a staund-alane and even-haundit tribunal in the determination o his richts and duties and o ony criminal chairge conter him.

Airticle 11

1. Awbody chairged wi a penal faut hes the richt tae be thocht innocent til pruverd guilty conformand til law in a public trial whaur he hes haen aw the warranties necessar for his defence.
2. Naebody shal be taen as guilty o ony penal faut on accoont o ony act or omission that didna mak for a penal faut, in ower national or international law, at the time whan it wes committit. Nor shal a penalty be imposed hivvier nor the ane that wes applicabale at the time the penal faut wes committit.

Airticle 12

Naebody shal be gart thole wulsome intromission wi his privacy, faimily, hame or letters, nor tae onsets upon his honour and repute. Awbody hes the richt tae the beild o the law conter sic intromission or onsets.

Airticle 13

1. Awbody hes the richt tae freedom o traivel and residence ben the mairches o aw States.
2. Awbody hes the richt tae win awa frae ony countrie, includin his ain, and tae win back til his countrie.

Airticle 14

1. Awbody hes the richt tae seek and tae enjoy in ither countries asylum frae persecution.
2. This richt mayna be cried on in the case o prosecutions genuinely arisan ower the heids o non-political crimes or o acts contrair til the purposes and principles o the Unitit Nations.

Airticle 15

1. Awbody hes the richt til a nationality.
2. Naebody shal be wulsomely twined o his nationality nor disalloued the richt tae chynghe his nationality.

Airticle 16

1. Men and wemen o ful age, wi nae ony branks on accoont o race, nationality or religioun, hes the richt tae mairry and foond a faimily. Entitelt they are tae equal richts anent mairrage, oot throu mairrage and at its upbrak.
2. Mairrage shal be gane intil wi the free and ful consent alane o the intendin marras.
3. The faimily is the naitural and fundamental group unit o society and is entitelt tae the beild o society and the State.

Airticle 17

1. Awbody hes the richt tae awn gear his lane as weel as in commonty.
2. Nane shal be wulsomely twined o his gear.

Airticle 18

Awbody hes the richt tae freedom o thocht, conscience and religioun; this richt includes the freedom tae chynghe his religioun or belief, and freedom, aither his lane or in commonty and in public or in quietie, tae witness his religioun or belief in teaching, practick, worship and observance.

Airticle 19

Awbody hes the richt tae freedom o opinioun and expression; this richt includes freedom tae haud opiniouns wi nae intermeddling and tae seek, come by and gie oot wittings and conceits throu ony media and tentless o frontiers.

Airticle 20

1. Awbody hes the richt tae freedom o peacefu forgethering and association.
2. Nane may be gart belang an associe.

Airticle 21

1. Awbody hes the richt tae tak a haund in the government o his countrie, directly or throu representatives freely waled.
2. Awbody hes the richt til equal access tae public service in his countrie.
3. The wull o the people shal be the grunds o the autoritie o government; this wull shal be expressed in periodic and jonick elections that shal be by universal and equal suffrage and shal be hauden by secret vote or by the like free voican procedures.

Airticle 22

Awbody, as a member o society, hes the richt tae social security and is entitelt tae realisation, throu national darg and international compluterance and confeerin til the organisation and fends o ilka State, o the economic, social and cultural richts that maun be haen for his dignity and the free development o his personality.

Airticle 23

1. Awbody hes the richt tae hae wark, free choice o employ, fair and guid tids o wark, and security gin wark gaes wantin.
2. Awbody, wi nae ony discrimination, hes the richt tae equal pey for equal wark.
3. Awbody in wark hes the richt tae fair and guid pey that maks siccar for himsel and his faimily an existence worthy o human dignity, and hae it eikit til, if necessar, wi ither means o social beild.
4. Awbody hes the richt tae mak and tae jyne trade unions for the beild o his interests.

Airticle 24

Awbody hes the richt tae saucht and leisure, includin wyce stents on wark-oors and periodic time aff wi pey.

Airticle 25

1. Awbody hes the richt til a standart o life fit for the guid-heal and weel-daeen o himsel and his faimily, includin meat, claes, hoosing and medical care as weel as necessar social services and the richt tae security in the event o job loss, seikness, disability, wedowheid, auld age or ither want o fends in circumstances oot o his pouer.
2. Mitherheid and bairnheid is entitelt tae special tent and assistance. Aw childer, whuther born in or oot o wadlock, shal enjoy the samelike social beild.

Airticle 26

1. Awbody hes the richt tae learning. Learning shal be free, at least in the elementar and foondin stages. Elementar learning shal be compelt. Technical and professional learning shal be made generally available and secundar learning shal be available tae aw equal like on grounds o merit.
2. Learning shal be airtit at the ful development o the human personality and at the steivening o respect for human richts and fundamental freedoms. It shal promote understaunding, toleration and freendship amang aw nations, racial or religious groups, and shal gar the purposes o the Unitit Nations win forrit in the uphauding o peace.
3. Parents hes a prior richt tae wale the kind o lear that shal be gien til their bairns.

Airticle 27

1. Awbody hes the richt tae tak pairt freely in the cultural life o the commonty, tae enjoy the airts and tae share in the advancement o science and its benefits.
2. Awbody hes the richt til the haining o the moral and material interests that results frae ony scientific, literary or airtistic production he is the makar o.

Airticle 28

Awbody is entitelt til a social and international order in the whilk the richts and freedoms furthset in this Declaration can kythe in ful.

Airticle 29

1. Awbody hes duties tae the commonty in the whilk alane the free and ful development o his personality is possible.
2. In the exercise o his richts and freedoms, awbody shal thole nae mair nor whit branks are determined by law for the ae purpose o makand the due kenning and respect for the richts and freedoms o ithers and the meeting o the just needs o morality, public order and the common weill in a democratic society siccar.
3. Thir richts and freedoms can niver in nae case be exercised conter the purposes and principles o the Unitit Nations.

Airticle 30

Nocht in this Declaration may be interpret as allowin for ony State, group or person ony richt tae tak pairt in ony ploy or perform ony act ettled at the cowping of ony o the richts and freedoms herein furthset.

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