

The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** is a milestone document that proclaims the inalienable rights which everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Available in more than [500 languages](#), it is the most translated document in the world.

In the early days of the United Nations, President Truman appointed Eleanor Roosevelt as the US Representative to the UN Human Rights Commission. She became one of the principal advocates of the Declaration.



**“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home -- so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. [...] Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.”** Eleanor Roosevelt

[Human Rights Day](#)

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## **Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals**

Human rights are at the heart of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), as in the absence of human dignity we cannot hope to drive sustainable development. Human Rights are driven by progress on all SDGs, and the SDGs are driven by advancements on human rights. Find out how [UN agencies strive to put human rights at the center of their work](#).