



# General Assembly

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Agenda item 71

### Promotion and protection of human rights

#### **Letter dated 6 December 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

In the spirit of celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I wish to draw your attention to the enclosed statement (see annex), which was presented at an event entitled “Transatlantic Summit”, organized by the Political Network of Values and its partner organizations on 17 November 2023 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The event was held in the presence of elected representatives from more than 40 Member States.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 71.

*(Signed)* Zsuzsanna **Horváth**  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**THE NEW YORK STATEMENT ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS<sup>1</sup>**

We, ministers and high representatives of Governments, political, and civic leaders gathered at the United Nations headquarters on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

RECOGNIZING that international cooperation in the pursuit of peace, development, and human rights and full respect of the sovereign equality of states is codified in the founding principles of the U.N. Charter,

ALARMED by efforts to undermine and distort the principles and rights enshrined in the UDHR and other binding international instruments,

AFFIRMING that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is the foundation for all universally recognized international human rights,

**PARTICULARLY REAFFIRM THAT**

Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world (UDHR Preamble).

Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person (UDHR 3).

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State (UDHR 16), and motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance (UDHR 25).

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion, either alone or in community with others and in public or private (UDHR 18), and everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers (UDHR 19).

Everyone has the right to education, and parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be provided to their children (UDHR 26).

**AND THEREFORE COMMIT OURSELVES AND CALL UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

To establish an environment conducive to family formation and stability for men and women to fully realize their fundamental human right to marry and found a family (UDHR 16, 23, 25).

To protect children, both before and after birth (UDHR 3, Cf. CRC Preamble).

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<sup>1</sup> We build upon previous agreements within the international community such as the General Assembly resolution 44/82 on the International Year of the Family (1989); the Human Rights Council Protection of the Family Resolution [HRC/RES/26/11 \(2014\)](#); the Human Rights Council Protection of the Family Resolution [HRC/RES/29/22 \(2015\)](#); the Human Rights Council Protection of the Family Resolution on Disabilities [HRC/RES/32/23 \(2016\)](#); the Human Rights Council Protection of the Family Resolution [HRC/RES/35/13](#) on Older Persons (2017); the Doha Declaration (2004); the San José Articles (2011); the Declaration on the Rights of the Family on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014); the Geneva Statement Commemorating 70 Years of the UDHR (2018) and the Geneva Consensus Declaration (2020).

To respect the liberty of parents and legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions (UDHR 26, Cf. ICCPR 18, Cf. ICESCR 13).

To full respect the various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds, and philosophical convictions of the peoples of world, and the sovereignty of states in matters that are within their domestic jurisdiction (Cf. UN Charter Article II, UDHR 18, 19, Cf. ICPD 1.11).

To foster a Global Alliance for the universally agreed human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the UDHR.

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