



Human Rights Council**Forty-ninth session**

28 February–1 April 2022

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development****Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 31 March 2022****49/16. Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect
for cultural diversity***The Human Rights Council,**Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,**Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and all other relevant human rights instruments,*Recalling also* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity,*Noting* the declarations within the United Nations system on cultural diversity and international cultural cooperation, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation and the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1966 and 2001, respectively,*Welcoming* the increasing number of States parties to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 20 October 2005 and that entered into force on 18 March 2007,*Convinced* that international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all should be based on an understanding of the economic, social and cultural specificities of each country and the full realization and recognition of the universality of all human rights and the principles of freedom, justice, equality and non-discrimination,*Recognizing* that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,*Determined* to treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

1. *Reaffirms* that cultural rights are an integral part of human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interrelated and interdependent;
2. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;
3. *Reaffirms* that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
4. *Recalls* that, as expressed in the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, no one may invoke cultural diversity to infringe upon human rights guaranteed by international law, nor to limit their scope;
5. *Reaffirms* that States have the responsibility to promote and protect cultural rights, and that these rights should be guaranteed for all, without discrimination;
6. *Recognizes* that respect for the cultural diversity and cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural heritage and background, advancing the application and enjoyment of human rights throughout the world and fostering stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;
7. *Also recognizes* that respect for and the promotion of cultural rights are essential for development, peace, the eradication of poverty, building social cohesion and the promotion of mutual respect, tolerance and understanding between individuals and groups, in all their diversity;
8. *Emphasizes* that the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including cultural rights, and respect for cultural diversity should reinforce each other;
9. *Looks forward* to the contribution of the new holder of the mandate of Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights to the promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity;
10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the first report of the new mandate holder, on the preliminary workplan for the mandate and the thematic areas identified therein;¹
11. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and to assist the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights in the discharge of the mandate, to provide the mandate holder with all the necessary information requested by her and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to her requests to visit their countries in order to enable her to fulfil her duties effectively;
12. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate;
13. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to work, within her mandate, with relevant stakeholders towards the comprehensive promotion and protection of cultural rights, and to report regularly to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, in accordance with their respective programmes of work;
14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this matter under the same agenda item in accordance with its programme of work.

*55th meeting
31 March 2022*

[Adopted without a vote.]

¹ A/HRC/49/54.