Voluntary National Report

Achievements of the Republic of Uzbekistan within the framework of Fourth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education

1. National Commitment to Human Rights Education

The Republic of Uzbekistan remains firmly committed to promoting human rights education (HRE) as a fundamental pillar of democratic governance, social cohesion and sustainable development. Recognising that human rights education is a crucial factor in strengthening the rule of law, developing civic engagement and preventing discrimination, Uzbekistan has taken significant steps to introduce human rights principles into the education system, the training of law enforcement officials and public awareness initiatives.

Education is a fundamental human right and a key driver of individual empowerment, economic development, and social progress. Uzbekistan recognizes that education is essential for promoting equality, tolerance, and human dignity. A fundamental aspect of Uzbekistan's approach to human rights education is raising a **human rights culture** throughout society. Moreover, **human rights education** plays a crucial role in strengthening legal literacy, developing a culture of peace, preventing human rights violations, and strengthening democratic institutions.

Uzbekistan's new Constitution, adopted in 2023, reinforces the country's dedication to human rights and education. **Article 50** of the Constitution guarantees the right to education for all citizens. It mandates that the State ensures the development of a continuous education system, covering various types and forms of education in both state and non-state educational institutions. The Constitution further guarantees free general secondary and basic vocational education and mandates that general secondary education be compulsory.

Special emphasis is placed on inclusive education and upbringing for children with special educational needs. The government provides state supervision over pre-school education and upbringing, ensuring equitable access to learning opportunities for all children. These constitutional provisions align with Uzbekistan's commitment to human rights education, ensuring that HRE is integrated into national education policies, curricula, and training programs for educators, law enforcement officials, and civil servants.

The Government of Uzbekistan has prioritized human rights education as part of its broader efforts to modernize the legal system, enhance democratic institutions, and align national policies with international human rights standards, including the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).**

A key milestone in Uzbekistan's commitment to human rights education is the adoption of the **National Strategy on Human Rights**, which serves as a **comprehensive roadmap** for

promoting **legal literacy, promoting a culture of respect for human rights, and strengthening the institutional framework for HRE**. The Strategy emphasizes the need for **systematic legal education at all levels of society**, ensuring that citizens, public officials, educators, and law enforcement personnel are equipped with the necessary knowledge to uphold and protect human rights.

In addition to **legislative and policy measures**, Uzbekistan has actively engaged in **international partnerships and regional cooperation initiatives** to strengthen its human rights education programs. The country has worked closely with **UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and other international organizations** to implement joint programs aimed at **enhancing human rights awareness, developing educational materials, and conducting capacity-building activities for educators and government officials**.

Uzbekistan also holds national and international forums, seminars and training sessions to promote dialogue on best practices in human rights education. These initiatives reflect the country's continued commitment to the development of a human rights-conscious society, in which legal awareness and civic responsibility are the basis for sustainable social progress.

Uzbekistan acknowledges the significance of the **Fourth Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (WPHRE)**, which focuses on **youth empowerment and human rights education**. The government has **adopted targeted policies** to promote human rights awareness among **young people, students, and professionals**, recognizing them as key actors in shaping a **more just, inclusive, and rights-respecting society**.

To ensure **sustainable implementation and continuous improvement** of human rights education, Uzbekistan has undertaken a **multi-pronged approach**, focusing on the **following key areas**:

First, the government has adopted national laws and policies that integrate human rights education (HRE) into both formal and non-formal education systems. These legal frameworks establish a solid foundation for promoting human rights awareness at all levels of society.

Second, human rights principles, democracy, and civic education have been systematically incorporated into educational programs. This ensures that students develop a strong understanding of fundamental rights and responsibilities from an early age.

Third, comprehensive training programs have been implemented to ensure that state actors, including public officials, law enforcement personnel, and judicial authorities, uphold human rights standards in governance, policing, and legal proceedings.

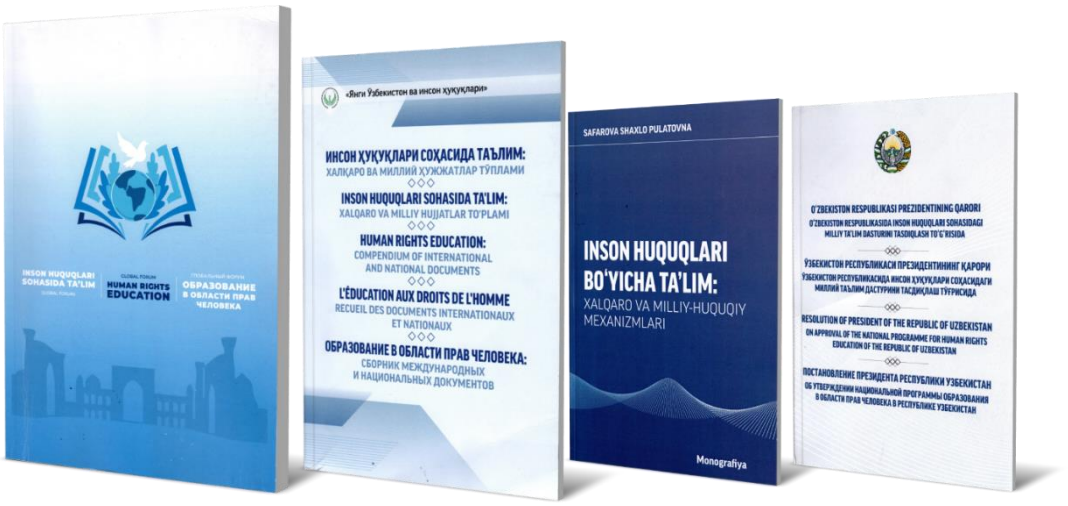
Fourth, television, radio, digital platforms, and print media are actively utilized to disseminate information about human rights. Public awareness campaigns and media programs help reinforce the principles of legal literacy and civic engagement among the broader population.

Fifth, Uzbekistan collaborates with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, and international agencies to advance human rights education initiatives. These partnerships contribute to the development of educational materials, capacity-building

programs, and best practice exchanges that strengthen the national human rights education system.

Through these joint efforts, Uzbekistan endeavours to create an environment in which respect for human rights is deeply rooted in national values, education systems and governance structures. The Government reaffirms its readiness to continue to engage with the international community and civil society to further strengthen the impact of human rights education in the country.

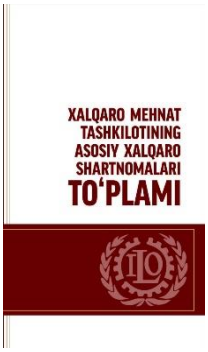
As part of its ongoing commitment to promoting a culture of human rights, the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan has developed and published a wide range of educational materials. These publications serve as essential tools for raising public awareness and supporting formal and informal human rights education across the country. **Presented below are several key publications that have been developed and disseminated as part of this initiative:**



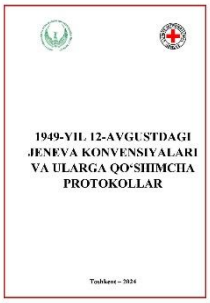
In 2024, substantial efforts were undertaken to enhance citizens' awareness of international instruments by providing official translations of major international documents into the Uzbek state language. Specifically, **45 international documents** - including treaties, agreements, conventions, covenants, protocols, letters, notes, and other related texts to which the Republic of Uzbekistan became a party were translated and edited in parallel with their original official-language texts. These translations resulted in the publication of four comprehensive collections:



1. **Compilation of United Nations International Instruments on Combating Crime and Ensuring Justice** (Tashkent: National Center for Human Rights of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2024, 136 pages).



2. **Compilation of Fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization** (Tashkent: National Center for Human Rights of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2024, 152 pages).



3. **The Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Their Additional Protocols** (Tashkent: Adolat Publishing House, 2024, 372 pages).



4. **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women** (published in Uzbek, Karakalpak, English, and Russian languages, Tashkent: National Center for Human Rights of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2024, 108 pages).

In addition to its publishing efforts, the National Center for Human Rights has paid particular attention to public engagement through media platforms. From 2020 to 2024, a dedicated work plan was approved by the Director of the Center, guiding the preparation and dissemination of articles timed to international days established by the United Nations, as well as national holidays and important dates celebrated in Uzbekistan.

Within the framework of this plan, staff members of the National Center and the editorial team of the Democratization and Human Rights journal actively contributed to the development of thematic content. These articles addressed topics of national and global relevance and aimed to raise awareness of human rights among the wider public.

Over the reporting period, more than **250 articles** were published across a wide range of national websites and print media outlets, averaging over **50 publications** per year. These included expert commentaries, interviews, feature articles, analytical pieces, and event coverage related to masterclasses, public lectures, and roundtable discussions.

In addition to regular media publications, the National Center for Human Rights has continued to expand its outreach by supporting cultural and educational initiatives that contribute to building a culture of human rights. A significant step in this direction was the publication of the book "**Ezgulik taqvimi: niyat, so'z va amal birligi**" (*Calendar of Kindness: Unity of Intention, Word, and Deed*).



This 372-page volume, released under the label of the newly established "**House of Human Rights"** at the National Center, is the first publication issued within this initiative. It brings

together **70 articles** and commentaries that explore the significance of national and international commemorative days from a cultural, historical, and human rights perspective.

Importantly, the book builds on a longstanding tradition of promoting awareness through written content. For many years, the National Center has been committed to the preparation of scholarly and legal articles related to UN-designated international days. Reflecting this approach, *Ezgulik taqvimi* is organized into two main parts:

The first section features **21 articles focused on nationally significant dates**—ranging from official state holidays to professional observances and landmark historical events.

The second section comprises **49 articles dedicated to international days**—covering a wide spectrum of issues including human rights, education, freedom of expression, sustainable development, health, and cultural heritage.

These media contributions played a crucial role in development a culture of human rights, promoting inclusion, and reinforcing the values of dignity, equality, and justice throughout the country.

2. Strengthening the Legal and Institutional Framework for Human Rights Education

To support the development and institutionalization of human rights education, Uzbekistan has enacted several key legal and policy documents that establish a comprehensive framework for promoting legal literacy, civic engagement, and respect for human rights across society. These legislative measures aim to integrate human rights principles into educational institutions, public administration, and community initiatives, ensuring that legal awareness becomes a fundamental pillar of national governance and social development.

First, the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan No.5618 (January 9, 2019) "*On the Fundamental Improvement of the System for Raising Legal Awareness and Legal Culture in Society*" laid the foundation for a nationwide, systematic approach to strengthening human rights education and legal consciousness among citizens. This decree:

- Establishes a strategic framework for promoting legal awareness at all levels of society.
- Aims to instill respect for the law as a core value by fostering a culture of compliance and accountability.
- Introduces nationwide legal education initiatives, including public outreach programs, mass media campaigns, and educational reforms to increase accessibility to legal information.
- Strengthens the role of government institutions and civil society organizations in delivering legal education and monitoring its effectiveness.

Second, On July 15, 2019, the Council of the Legislative Chamber and the Council of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted Joint Resolution No. 2600-III. This resolution approved the **National Action Program for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training**. The adoption of this program demonstrates Uzbekistan's commitment to **promoting a culture of human rights through education and training**. It aimed to raise public awareness, improve knowledge, and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in all spheres of society. This National Action Program served as a strategic document guiding state bodies, educational

institutions, and civil society organizations in developing and implementing effective human rights education at national and local levels.

Third, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 342, dated April 20, 2019, *"On the Approval of the Regulation on Monitoring and Evaluation of Measures to Improve Legal Culture in Society*" was adopted to ensure that legal education initiatives are effectively implemented and continuously assessed. This resolution:

- Provides a structured mechanism for evaluating the success of educational programs.
- Ensures that educational and public awareness efforts align with national priorities and Uzbekistan's international commitments in the field of human rights.
- Establishes performance indicators and reporting mechanisms to measure progress and identify areas for improvement.

Fourth, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 259, dated May 16, 2022, "*On the Approval of the Action Plan for Enhancing Legal Culture in Society for 2022–2023*" introduced a structured approach to promoting legal education and awareness in Uzbekistan. Building upon this initiative, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 588, dated September 18, 2024, "*On the Approval of the Action Plan for Enhancing Legal Culture in Society for 2024–2025*" established a comprehensive framework to further strengthen legal literacy and human rights education across Uzbekistan. The Action Plans focused on legal education in families and schools, professional training for government employees, public legal awareness, digital legal advocacy, and legal research.

The government **implemented legal education programs** in families and schools, launching **awareness campaigns on domestic violence prevention**. **Human rights, women's rights,** and **children's rights** courses have been introduced in universities, retraining centers, and professional development institutions, ensuring broad accessibility to legal education. It **strengthened legal culture among public officials** through initiatives such as **legal literacy months** and mandatory **legal knowledge assessments** for government employees.

To improve **public access to legal support**, the government introduced programs like "**Free Legal Consultation in Every Home"** and **legal aid initiatives for people with disabilities**. Digital legal advocacy efforts **expanded the dissemination of legal education** through **mass media, online legal portals,** and the **"Legal Information"** Telegram channel.

Additionally, the action plan **advanced legal education and research** by incorporating **gender rights topics into law school curricula** and launching **an electronic platform for legal scholars**. These measures contributed to **building a legally informed society that upholds human rights and the rule of law**.

3. Establishment and Activities of the National Commission on Human Rights Education in Uzbekistan

In accordance with the Order of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No.5664, dated June 7, 2021, "*On the Establishment of the National Commission for the Implementation of the Fourth Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan*," the **National Commission** was established. This step marked a significant milestone

in Uzbekistan's ongoing reforms aimed at strengthening the protection of human rights and aligning domestic legislation and practices with international standards.

The National Commission for the Implementation of the Fourth Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan **comprises representatives from key government institutions, educational bodies, and civil society organizations**. The Commission includes from the **Legislative Chamber and Senate of the Oliy Majlis**, the **National Center for Human Rights**, and ministries responsible for **foreign affairs, justice, education (preschool, public, and higher education), and social support**.

Additionally, it includes representatives from the **Council of the Federation of Trade Unions, the Youth Affairs Agency, the Ombudsman's Office, and the Commissioner for Children's Rights**. The **National Association of Electronic Mass Media** is also part of the Commission. **Rectors of universities** are included as key participants.

The key tasks assigned to the National Commission include:

First, developing a comprehensive National Programme for Human Rights Education, taking into account, international treaty norms and standards, recommendations of UN human rights mechanisms, and the historical, national, and cultural values of Uzbek society.

Second, ensuring the timely and high-quality implementation of the Programme at all levels ranging from educational institutions to government agencies, thereby fostering a culture of respect for human rights across the country.

Third, organizing broad awareness campaigns for the international community on the measures being taken in Uzbekistan to implement the Programme and improve human rights education. These efforts aim to showcase the country's commitment to fulfilling its international obligations and promoting transparency.

Fourth, establishing a constructive dialogue with UN charter and treaty bodies, including the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Through such cooperation, Uzbekistan seeks to benefit from global best practices and strengthen the effectiveness of its human rights initiatives.

Under this Order, the National Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights was designated as the working body of the National Commission, tasked with providing expert support, coordination, and monitoring of all activities under the Programme.

Establishing the National Commission and adopting the National Human Rights Education Programme reinforce Uzbekistan's commitment to upholding international human rights standards. By integrating historical, cultural, and societal values with UN-recommended practices, Uzbekistan aims to create a robust and sustainable framework for human rights education.

Looking ahead, the National Commission is expected to:

- Coordinate closely with government agencies, educational institutions, and civil society organizations to implement the Program's initiatives effectively.

- Sustain dialogue with international partners to exchange experiences and incorporate best practices.
- Regularly assess progress to ensure ongoing refinement of human rights education policies and activities.
- These steps collectively affirm Uzbekistan's dedication to building a just, tolerant, and rights-based society, in line with its broader reform agenda and international obligations.

4. Human Rights Education: Cooperation with Civil Society Institutions in Implementing Uzbekistan's International Human Rights Obligations (2020-2024)

Uzbekistan **actively involves civil society institutions, including non-governmental non-profit organizations (NGOs) and the media, in fulfilling its obligations under international treaties.** These institutions play a **crucial role in human rights monitoring, raising legal awareness, and ensuring public oversight.** Their contributions include the **development and implementation of National Action Plans on human rights, submission of alternative reports to UN human rights treaty bodies, and strengthening of capacity, financial stability, and international cooperation** to enhance the effective implementation of human rights commitments.

Throughout **2020-2024**, Uzbekistan has reinforced its commitment to **engaging civil society in human rights implementation, particularly through monitoring, reporting, and legislative initiatives.** Over these years, significant efforts have been made in **conducting assessments, organizing roundtables, and enhancing the role of NGOs in decision-making processes.** The **National Center for Human Rights** has facilitated this collaboration by supporting NGOs in **preparing Uzbekistan's periodic reports for UN human rights bodies, monitoring national human rights treaty implementation, and developing human rights-related legislation.**

In **2024**, **multiple human rights monitoring activities** were conducted, including **assessments on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).** Evaluations were also carried out on **human rights, women's rights, and children's rights training, along with a special review of compliance with human rights in penitentiary institutions. Key participants** included the **Federation of Trade Unions, the National Association of NGOs, "Madad" NGO, the Association of Disabled Persons of Uzbekistan, the Society of Disabled Persons, and the Center for Sustainable Development.** The year also saw **over ten seminar-trainings** on implementing international human rights treaties, involving **more than 100 civil society representatives.** Notably, on **March 26, 2024, a roundtable was held on the legal frameworks for employment of persons with disabilities**, and on **April 30, 2024, a discussion focused on transport accessibility for persons with disabilities** as part of the **National Action Plan for CRPD implementation.** Key roundtable discussions included a **June 4, 2024, meeting on the participation of national minorities in socio-economic life** based on **OSCE High Commissioner recommendations**, a **September 18, 2024, session on free legal aid for stateless persons and asylum seekers,** a **November 18, 2024, public consultation on forced displacement and human rights,** and a **November 20, 2024, international roundtable on alternatives to detention and restorative justice for juvenile offenders** in collaboration with **UNICEF and the Ombudsman for Children's Rights.** On **December 5, 2024, the National NGO Forum** emphasized **cooperation between NGOs and government agencies**, with participation from the **Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor General's Office, and international experts.**

The year **2023** was marked by a **series of seminars and training sessions** aimed at **strengthening human rights education.** On **June 22, 2023,** a **seminar on a rights-based approach for persons with disabilities** was organized, followed by a **July 4, 2023, seminar on aligning national legislation with the CRPD.** On **July 20, 2023, a training session on alternative reporting** was held for NGOs, equipping **30 representatives with knowledge of UN treaty body reporting standards.** Other notable events included a **seminar on personal assistants for persons with disabilities on July 27**, a **training on social housing policies for persons with disabilities on August 24 in Samarkand,** and a **September 14 seminar on human rights-based approaches for children, youth, and women with disabilities.** On **September 26, 2023, a seminar in Tashkent on establishing Opportunity Centers for persons with disabilities** gathered **representatives from over 40 ministries, agencies, and civil society organizations.** The **National NGO Forum on Human Rights Cooperation** was held on **October 25, 2023,** followed by an **international seminar on CRPD implementation from November 7-9, 2023,** with experts from **Germany, Russia, Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan.** The year concluded with a **November 22, 2023, seminar on children's participation in implementing the CRC** in collaboration with **UNICEF**, and a **December 2023 series of seminars focused on monitoring international human rights commitments.**

In **2022**, collaboration between **civil society institutions and the government** continued as a **priority.** On **April 12-13, 2022, a two-day training session in Tashkent** focused on **enhancing the capacity of NGOs in preparing alternative reports for the CRPD,** co-organized by the **National Center for Human Rights, the Association of Disabled Persons of Uzbekistan, and various UN agencies.** On **April 27, 2022, a seminar on the role of state authorities in implementing the CRPD** took place, followed by a **May 16, 2022, session in Samarkand** focusing on the **role of civil society in advocating for and monitoring disability rights.** These events emphasized **best practices in public engagement and policy development.**

The year **2021** emphasized **enhancing civil society participation in human rights policy.** The **National Center for Human Rights coordinated with NGOs in the preparation of Uzbekistan's national reports** to the **UN Committees on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR).** On **June 7, 2021, work began on developing a National Action Plan for the CRPD.** Legislative initiatives included **proposed amendments to key laws**, such as the **Law on Equal Treatment and Non-Discrimination, the Law on Public Oversight, and the Law on the Commissioner for Children's Rights.** Further proposals were made regarding **free legal aid and public participation in law-making, ensuring that civil society institutions had an active role in shaping human rights governance.**

During **2020, the National Center for Human Rights introduced measures to strengthen collaboration** between **state agencies and NGOs** in **human rights monitoring and reporting.** These initiatives included **increasing civil society awareness of national reporting cycles, establishing cooperation mechanisms between government agencies and NGOs, conducting public opinion surveys and NGO-led data collection on human rights issues, formalizing NGO participation in drafting national human rights reports, introducing public expert reviews before submitting reports to UN bodies, and supporting capacity-building programs for NGOs in preparing alternative reports.** Furthermore, **over 70 information and educational events** were organized in **cooperation with NGOs, state agencies, and international organizations** to **promote human rights education and improve legal literacy.**

Through these sustained efforts, Uzbekistan has reinforced its commitment to international human rights standards by strengthening partnerships between the government and civil society institutions, ensuring transparency, and improving public oversight mechanisms. By engaging civil society in monitoring, policy development, and legislative processes, Uzbekistan continues to advance its human rights agenda and create a more inclusive and participatory governance framework.

In accordance with Resolution No. 663 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated August 12, 2019, p**ermanent training courses for the professional development of personnel in the field of human rights protection have been established**. These courses are intended for civil servants and representatives of civil society institutions. Organized under the auspices of the **National Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan**, the courses implement educational programs aimed at developing deep knowledge and practical skills in the field of human rights.

As part of the curriculum, classes are conducted on a range of topics, including:

International and national mechanisms for the protection of women's rights;
Observance and protection of human rights in accordance with international standards, including practical implementation and reporting;
Prevention of torture, with consideration of international experience and national law enforcement practices.

Additionally, **National Training Courses on Combating Torture (17 November – 17 December 2021)** were conducted as part of these efforts. A large-scale training program reached approximately **1,200** law enforcement officers, including personnel from investigative, detention, and penal institutions. The courses, held in an online-offline format, enhanced knowledge on international and national anti-torture standards. The sessions were supported by six international experts, including Arthur Yatsevich, Yuri Belousov, and Evgeny Krapivin, who provided insights on best practices in preventing torture and ensuring human rights compliance.

Specialized Seminars for Senior Law Enforcement and Judicial Officials (January 2021) were organized as part of the implementation of the Roadmap for the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Human Rights. These efforts aimed to enhance public awareness and the capacity of government authorities regarding international human rights instruments. The National Human Rights Center of Uzbekistan developed the special training module *"Human Dignity – The Highest Value"* and the working curriculum *"Implementation of Uzbekistan's Human Rights Commitments: Practice and Reporting."* **Three webinars** were conducted for **412 senior officials**, focusing on human trafficking, forced labor, and legal obligations. The first, on 25 January, focused on the role of courts and law enforcement agencies in protecting the rights of human trafficking and forced labor victims (72 participants). The second, on 26 January, targeted leaders from the Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor General's Office, and the Supreme Court, addressing legal and human rights obligations (103 participants). The third, on 29 January, gathered officials from the National Guard, State Customs Committee, State Security Service, and Ministries of Internal Affairs and Defense, providing training for 237 participants on international human rights standards.

5. The National Programme for Human Rights Education in Uzbekistan

The fourth phase of the WPHRE focuses on educating and raising younger generations in a spirit of equality, adherence to human rights, and non-discrimination. It aims to foster inclusive, peaceful, and harmonious societies. As a result of Uzbekistan's initial efforts, on 15 July 2019, the Councils of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) adopted the **National Action Programme and the corresponding Roadmap for the implementation of the provisions of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training in Uzbekistan**.

To discuss the development of human rights education particularly in light of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's initiatives proposed at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly and the 46th Session of the UN Human Rights Council Uzbekistan hosted the **Global Forum on "Human Rights Education."** Over 120 international experts and more than 2,000 domestic organizations participated. Leading professors from universities worldwide delivered master classes in human rights to over 7,000 participants across various regions of Uzbekistan. The Final Document of the Forum, the Samarkand Action Plan for the Development of Human Rights Education in Central Asia, was adopted.

In the context of accelerating human rights related reforms and drawing from global best practices, the President of Uzbekistan signed the decree "**On Approving the National Programme for Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan**." This National Programme lays out systematic steps to expand and refine education, training, and public awareness in the field of human rights, aligning with both international and domestic standards.

The National Programme is aimed at implementing the requirements of the **Fourth Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education**. In other words, it is significant because it was developed by harmonizing international experience with national practice.



The National Programme outlines **seven** priority areas. Specifically:

1. **Increasing Youth Awareness of Human Rights and Freedoms;**
2. **Enhancing the Knowledge and Skills of State Officials in Human Rights and Gender Equality;**
3. **Improving the System for Training Pedagogical Staff in Human Rights and Supporting Scientific Research;**
4. **Raising Awareness of Human Rights Among Socially Vulnerable Segments of the Population;**
5. **Strengthening the Engagement of Civil Society Institutions in Human Rights Education;**
6. **Enhancing the Effectiveness of Human Rights Education and Training Through Modern Technologies, Artistic Works, and the Mass Media;**
7. **Developing International Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights Education.**

On the basis of this "Road Map," cooperation has been established in each area with Parliament, the Government, *local hokimiyats* (administrations), and civil society institutions. Special commissions and working groups have been formed. Consequently, every area of the Programme's implementation is subject to ongoing monitoring.

As of February 2025, of the **30 items on the 'Road Map'** for the implementation of the National Programme for Human Rights Education, 18 items (60 per cent) have been fully completed, and work on the remaining 12 items (40 per cent) is constantly ongoing.

FIRST AREA. Raising Youth Awareness of Human Rights and Freedoms. Within this area, there are a total of 5 items. Four of them (Road Map items 1, 2, 4, 5) had deadlines in 2023, and those tasks were fulfilled on time. One item (item 3 of the Road Map) is ongoing, since it is classified as a continuous task.

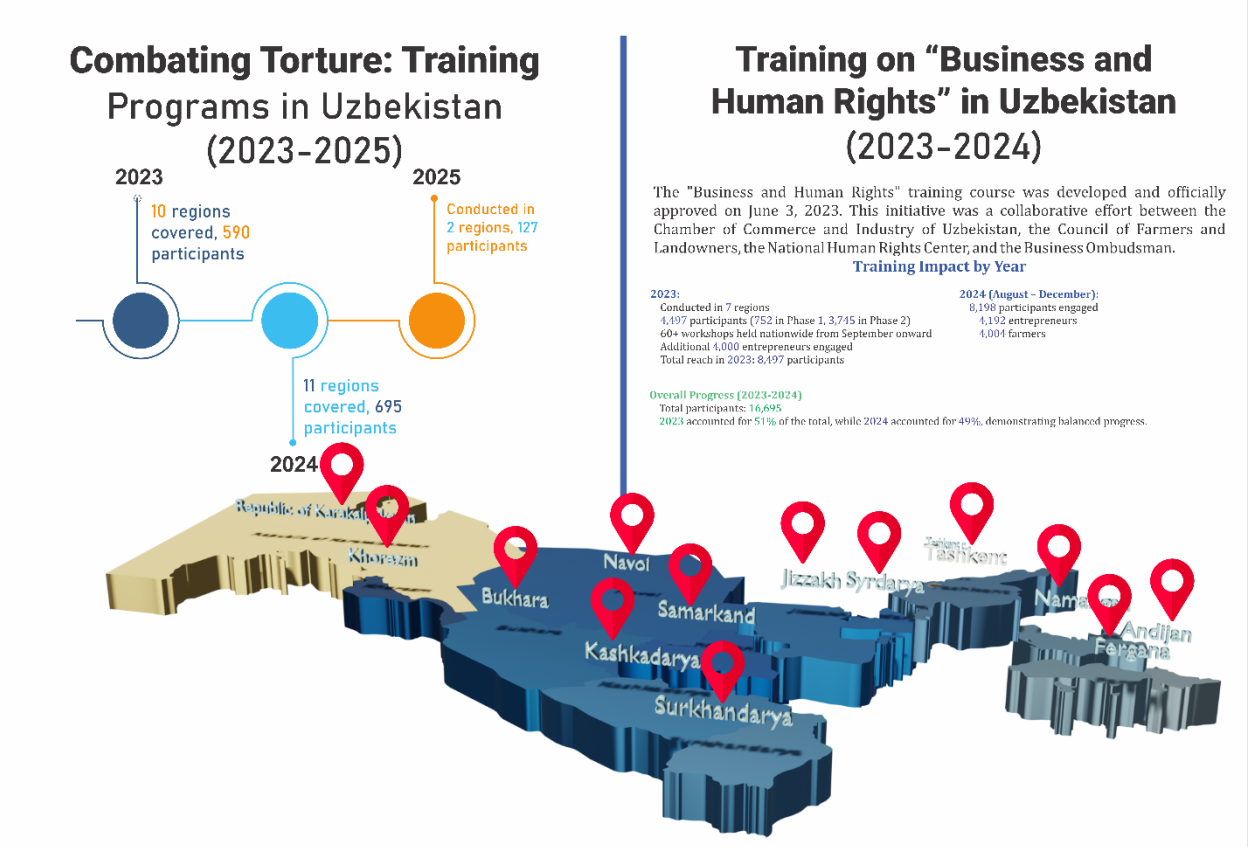
1. From February 20 to 28, 2023, a "Human Rights Week" was held, featuring international conferences and roundtable discussions in the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and several regions. Various meetings titled "Human Rights – The Highest Value" were conducted in local communities. Among young people, the hashtag **#Инсон_ҳуқуқлари_олий_қадрият** ("#Human_Rights_as_the_Highest_Value") trended, and a "Human Rights Quiz" was organized. Law enforcement agencies, higher education institutions, NGOs, and other agencies simultaneously carried out effective awareness campaigns.
2. The Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation introduced special courses on "Human Rights," "Women's Rights," and "Children's Rights" in **6** higher education institutions (HEIs). In addition, these courses were implemented in **114 HEIs** and **330** vocational education institutions across 14 regions.
3. On August 15, 2023, a **summer school** titled **"Human Rights for Future Generations"** was held, in which parliamentary representatives, state agency officials, and student youth took part. The National Center for Human Rights and the Youth Affairs Agency conducted a study on "Youth Rights and Freedoms," which revealed that legal knowledge among youth was still insufficient.
4. Beginning in the 2023/2024 academic year, an intensive 60-hour (30 hours in class, 30 hours independent study) "Human Rights" module was introduced in 11 medical higher education institutions.
5. At the initiative of the National Center for Human Rights, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation, the Ministry of Preschool and School Education, the Youth Affairs Agency, and the Youth Union, two national competitions titled **"Education and Innovation in the Field of Human Rights and Freedoms"** were held during 2023–

2024. In 2023, there were 81 total participants, whereas in 2024 this number increased to 819. The competition winners were awarded in December of 2023 and 2024.

As part of the implementation of the National Programme for Human Rights Education, the **National Center for Human Rights has prepared and published publications and textbooks** in the sphere of the rights of persons with disabilities (2), children's rights (3), and international human rights treaties (1). Additionally, the **University of Public Security** has published materials covering women's rights and gender equality (2), child rights and protection (3), socio-economic and constitutional rights (2), legal issues of child trafficking (1), and general human rights education (1 textbook). These publications contribute to national efforts in promoting human rights awareness and education.

SECOND AREA. Enhancing the Knowledge and Skills of State Officials in Human Rights and Gender Equality. Within this area, there are a total of 6 items. Three of them (items 7, 9, 10 of the Road Map) had deadlines in 2023 and were completed on time. The remaining three items (items 6, 8, 11 of the Road Map) are continuous, and work on those tasks is ongoing.

1. From July 29 to August 19, 2023, the National Center for Human Rights, the Higher School of Judges, the Law Enforcement Academy, and the Supreme Court jointly organized a four-week "Summer School" on **"Ensuring Human Rights in the Administration of Justice."** Approximately 60 judges and prosecutors from Tashkent (offline) and from other regions (online) participated. After successfully passing final exams, 57 participants received certificates.
2. A dedicated "Constitution and Human Rights" corner has been established in the National Library of Uzbekistan, as well as in 14 regional information and library centers. Additionally, the National Center for Human Rights has distributed 1,600 copies of human rights literature to promote awareness and accessibility of essential legal and human rights materials.
3. In 2023–2024, the National Center for Human Rights published 10 new collections (particularly concerning women's rights, children's rights, international treaties in the judicial and legal sphere). Additionally, the "Adolat" (Justice) Center under the Ministry of Justice released publications titled **"Legal Support for Women," "A Legal Guide to Essential Daily Issues,"** and **"Everyday Law."** In 2024, 45 international documents were officially translated and published as four major compilations.
4. In 2023, a specialized course titled **"Human Rights and Gender Equality"** was developed through collaboration between the Academy of Public Administration and the National Center for Human Rights and incorporated into training for managerial personnel and civil servants at all levels. During 2023–2024, one-week courses were held for 4,550 mid-level and lower-level managers at the Academy and its regional branches. Additionally, 45 women underwent training at the **"Women Leaders' School,"** and 56 national specialists upgraded their qualifications at the **"Governors Training School"** launched in partnership with Germany.



5. In collaboration with the **National Centre for Human Rights, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), and the Prosecutor's Office**, training courses on "**Combating Torture: International Experience and National Practice"** were conducted in 10 regions of Uzbekistan in 2023. In 2024, the training was expanded to 11 regions. These training sessions were organized for **law enforcement officials involved in pre-investigation inquiries, preliminary investigations, and criminal proceedings**, **judges from regional courts** as well as **personnel from penitentiary institutions**. National and international experts were engaged in delivering the courses. From 2023 to 2024, a total of **1,285** employees participated in the training programs. In **2025, the** training program conducted in 2 regions, with a total of **127 participants**.

6. Over 2023–2024, online-offline courses titled **"International Standards for Observing and Protecting Human Rights: Practice and Reporting"** were organized. Representatives from more than 40 agencies and organizations gained skills in preparing national reports and applying international recommendations in practice. All participants who successfully completed the courses received certificates.

THIRD AREA. Improving the System for Training Pedagogical Staff in Human Rights and Supporting Scientific Research. Within this area, there are a total of 5 items. Two of them (items 12 and 14 of the Road Map) had deadlines in 2023 and were completed on time. Another two items (items 15 and 16) are continuous.

1. From June 10 to September 10, 2023, the Ministry of Preschool and School Education studied the system of training and retraining pedagogical staff in the courses "**Human Rights," "Women's Rights," "Children's Rights," and "Rights of Persons with Disabilities."** A working group formed by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation conducted a critical review of the textbooks and curricula in this field and drafted appropriate proposals. As a

result, updated modules were discussed at a meeting of the Coordination Council Presidium (No. 4) on August 11, 2023, and were implemented by Order No. 391 dated August 25, 2023.

2. In order to improve postgraduate education in the "**Human Rights" specialty**, a total quota of 3 state-funded doctoral positions was allocated for the 2023/2024 academic year. From 2021 to 2024, 14 doctoral students and 34 independent researchers conducted scientific research in **"12.00.13 – Human Rights (Legal Sciences, Sociology)."** In 2023–2024, 5 additional doctoral students and 14 more independent researchers were admitted. Within this specialty, 2 doctoral (DSc) dissertation and 3 PhD dissertations have been defended.

Additionally, the following work is being carried out in this area:

1. The Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation announced the **"Olima Ayollar"** *(Women Scholars)* contest for practical and innovative projects. Several scientific projects in the legal field were submitted and underwent an initial technical and scientific review. In 2024, the National Center for Human Rights proposed the project **"Raising Awareness Among State Officials, Civil Society Institutions, and Various Social Groups of International Standards and National Legislation for Ensuring Youth Rights, and Developing Multimedia Products for Youth Rights Education."** Furthermore, within the framework of research activities, 2 projects with a total value of 2.918 billion soums are being financed by government order.

2. In 2024, the "El-Yurt Umidi" Foundation allocated 4 undergraduate, 19 master's, and 30 doctoral slots for specialties related to the field of human rights for study abroad.

In addition, master's programs in human rights have been launched at two higher education institutions: the Law Enforcement Academy with **"International Law on Human Rights"** and Tashkent State University of Law with **"International Law and Human Rights,"** in which a total of 30 students are currently enrolled.

FOURTH AREA. Increasing Awareness of Human Rights among Socially Vulnerable Groups. Within this area of the National Program, there are a total of 4 items (Road Map items 17, 18, 19, 20). Since they are classified as continuous, relevant work is still in progress.

1. Throughout all regions and the Republic of Karakalpakstan, the Ministry of Poverty Reduction and Employment conducted 143 seminar-trainings dedicated to the rights of persons with disabilities. In this process, the provisions of the newly revised Labor Code and rights of persons with disabilities were publicized 30 times via mass media, and 2,899 seminars covered 69,087 participants. During 2023–2024, 3 public monitoring sessions of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and 10 other diverse events were held. Within the framework of implementing the National Program on Human Rights Education, 7 seminar-trainings, 1 training course, and 1 roundtable were organized in 2023. More than 310 representatives from over 30 NGOs and 90 representatives from more than 15 government agencies took part in these events. In 2024, 9 seminars and 2 roundtables were organized, with 360 representatives from over 40 NGOs and 105 representatives from more than 20 government agencies participating.

2. Together with the Committee on Family and Women, the National Center for Human Rights organized training courses on **"Women's Rights."** In 2023–2024, these courses were held twice, attended by a total of 93 participants who strengthened their knowledge of both international and national mechanisms for protecting women's rights.

3. In cooperation with UNICEF, Tashkent State University of Law, the Public Security University, and the Ministry of Justice, the National Center held 4 events in 2023 and 5 events in

2024 focusing on children's rights. A series of special measures was implemented to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Jointly with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, seminars and trainings on children's rights were organized for inspector-psychologists, covering more than 1,900 staff members.

4. The National Center for Human Rights, together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the Ministry of Poverty Reduction and Employment, organized special training courses on **"Migrant Rights: International Standards and National Legislation."** In 2023, three seminars were held in Tashkent City and Namangan Region, with 202 participants from the External Labor Migration Agency and law enforcement agencies. Additionally, in December 2023, short-term trainings based on a methodological guide for the Russian labor market upgraded the qualifications of 42 employees.

FIFTH AREA. Increasing the Involvement of Civil Society Institutions in Human Rights Education. Within this area of the National Programme, there are a total of 4 items (items 21, 22, 23, 24 of the Road Map). Since these are continuous, work on these tasks is ongoing.

1. Under a resolution issued by the Parliamentary Commission of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis on May 11, 2023, the Public Fund under the Oliy Majlis announced another grant competition in the human rights sphere. As a result, in 2023, 10 non-governmental organizations' projects were declared winners, and in 2024, 8 projects were selected, receiving a total of 2.215 billion soums in government grant support.

2. In collaboration with civil society institutions, 187 events were held across the country in 2023–2024 on the topics of "Human Rights," "Women's Rights," and "Children's Rights." Additionally, three seminar-trainings were organized on drafting alternative (shadow) reports. During these events, the rights of persons with disabilities, youth, and women, as well as international requirements and the role of the non-governmental sector, were extensively discussed.

3. Training courses on "Business and Human Rights" was developed and officially approved on June 3, 2023. Notably, this plan was a collaborative undertaking by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan, the Council of Farmers and Landowners, the National Human Rights Center, and the Business Ombudsman. In **2023**, training sessions on "Business and Human Rights" were conducted in seven regions of Uzbekistan, with **4,497 participants** (752 in Phase 1 and 3,745 in Phase 2). Additionally, over 60 workshops were held nationwide from September onward, engaging approximately **4,000 entrepreneurs**, bringing the total reach to **8,497 participants**. In **2024**, between August and December, training courses engaged **8,198 participants** (4,192 entrepreneurs and 4,004 farmers), with topics focused on land rights, anti-corruption measures, and legislative frameworks. Significantly, the year 2023 accounted for 51% of total training efforts over both years, whereas 2024 accounted for 49%, illustrating balanced progress.

4. Within the trade unions system, the Academy of Labor and Social Relations introduced a "Human Rights" course in 7 educational programs. Moreover, in cooperation with the National Center for Human Rights, the Academy developed a **20-hour special course curriculum on "Protecting Human Rights and Learning to Defend Against All Forms of Forced Labor,"** which has been offered since the 2023/2024 academic year.

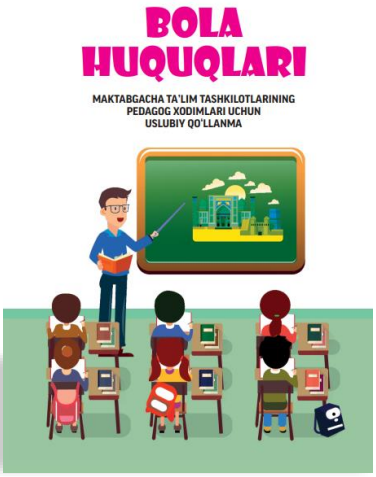
SIXTH AREA. Human Rights Education Through Modern Technologies, Artistic Works, and Mass Media. Within this area of the National Program, 4 items are set out (items 25, 26, 27, 28 of the Road Map). The following measures were undertaken:

1. The National Center for Human Rights of the Republic of Uzbekistan prepared two manuals for preschool educators and their pupils:
   - **Methodological Guide on Teaching Children's Rights**
   - **Visual Manual on "Children's Rights"**
2. As part of the National Programme, a series of radio and television shows were produced. In 2023–2024, 690 materials on human rights were published across various mass media outlets, 165 radio broadcasts and 382 television segments were aired, 6 video clips were shown, and 15 talk shows and 11 briefings were organized.
3. Training courses titled **"State Policy in Protecting Human Rights and Fulfillment of International Obligations in This Area"** were held for the information services of governmental agencies and local hokimiyats, as well as media representatives. A total of **79 specialists** participated.

Visual Manual on "Children's Rights"



Methodological Guide on Teaching Children's Rights





4. An **E-Learning Platform** for human rights education was launched for civil servants and the general public, offering 5 interactive courses. Participants passing the final test in each course receive a certificate. To date, more than 90 people have completed these online courses.

SEVENTH AREA. Developing International Cooperation in Human Rights Education. Within the National Program, 2 items (29 and 30 of the Road Map) are set out in this area. The following actions have been implemented:

1. In partnership with the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Regional Office for Central Asia), and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), a total of 36 events (13+13+10) were held in 2023–2024. Between May and August 2024, the National Center for Human Rights, in collaboration with the OSCE, organized several seminars on promoting women's leadership, ending statelessness, the rights of national minorities, mechanisms for implementing international recommendations, rules for dealing with imprisoned women, and the role of women in strengthening peace and security. A total of 169 specialists from state agencies, NGOs,

and civil society took part. Additionally, three training manuals were published in cooperation with the OSCE:

- **“Nelson Mandela Rules” – An International Training Program** (for penitentiary facility staff)
- **“Ensuring the Rights of Women and Children in Emergency Situations”**
- **“Gender Issues and Overcoming the Consequences of Natural Disasters: A Guide”**

2. In collaboration with the Council of Europe’s “Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals” (HELP) Program, 15 seminar-trainings were held by the Higher School of Judges and the Law Enforcement Academy in 2023–2024. Additionally, the Higher School of Judges, together with the East-West Management Institute, organized 7 seminars on ensuring equal rights and opportunities for men and women in the judiciary.
On March 5–6, 2024, a two-day training seminar on **“The Rights of Persons with Disabilities: International Standards and National Practice”** was held. This seminar was organized by the National Center for Human Rights in cooperation with the National Agency for Social Protection, the Association of Persons with Disabilities, the Society of Persons with Disabilities, and the Council of Europe’s “Rule of Law” HELP Program for Central Asia.

6. Monitoring the Implementation of the National Programme on Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan



In order to monitor the effective and high-quality implementation of the items in the National Programme on Human Rights Education, **4 meetings of the National Commission and 8 parliamentary-level meetings** were held in 2023–2025 regarding the Fourth Phase of the World Program for Human Rights Education.

First. National Commission Meetings (February 15, November 20, 2023; April 15, September 16, 2024). The National Commission on the Implementation of the Fourth Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan held sessions on these dates. During these meetings, participants discussed ensuring the implementation of the "Road Map" for the National Programme for Human Rights Education in Uzbekistan, as well as marking the anniversary dates of international human rights treaties.

Second. Senate Joint Committee Meeting (September 26, 2023). A joint session of the Senate Committee on Science, Education, and Healthcare and the Committee on International Relations, Foreign Economic Relations, Foreign Investments, and Tourism heard a report on the implementation of the National Program on Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Third. Committee Sessions of the Legislative Chamber (January 12, July 12, 2024, January 23, 2025).

The Committee on Democratic Institutions and Civil Society Development of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis examined progress on the National Programme for Human Rights Education and its Road Map.

Furthermore, **the Parliamentary Commission on Compliance with the Republic of Uzbekistan's International Human Rights Obligations** held 4 meetings (May 5, 2023; July 21, 2023; October 13, 2023; January 12, 2024) at which information on the implementation of the National Programme for Human Rights Education and its Road Map was presented.

To facilitate the implementation of the National Programme for Human Rights Education at local levels, *hokims* (governors/mayors) in **3 regions, 2 cities**, and **21 districts** adopted relevant decisions. In particular, a number of normative acts and action plans were approved by local *hokimiyats* in the regions of Tashkent, Namangan, Bukhara, Surkhandarya, and their respective districts/cities in order to ensure systematic execution of the Program and effectively implement necessary measures.

These local administrative decisions were aimed at ensuring the consistent implementation of the National Program and its related measures at the regional and district levels.

7. Key Human Rights Conferences



Samarkand Web Forum on Human Rights: 'Youth 2020' (August 12-13, 2020) The Samarkand Web Forum on Human Rights, held on August 12-13, 2020, was dedicated to the theme "Youth 2020: Global Solidarity, Sustainable Development, and Human Rights." The forum

aimed to discuss key issues related to improving international and regional mechanisms for human rights protection and promotion, particularly concerning youth rights.

The event was organized by the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan, the Regional Office of OHCHR for Central Asia, UNDP Uzbekistan, the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The forum gathered around 1,000 participants, including representatives from 15 international organizations, 10 regional organizations, and 10 international NGOs. National human rights institutions from over 20 countries, parliamentary and governmental bodies from more than 10 states, educational and research institutions from over 10 countries, and youth and civil society organizations from 15+ countries participated. Additionally, representatives from more than 20 diplomatic missions accredited in Uzbekistan attended, with over 400 foreign participants. Notably, 70% of the attendees were young people.

The third plenary session, "**Human Rights Education for Youth**," featured speakers from various esteemed institutions, including OHCHR, the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth, the National Human Rights Committee of Qatar, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia, the European Office of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, and the Office of the Commissioner for Children's Rights in Tajikistan. Participants examined international experiences in human rights education for youth and exchanged views on developing recommendations to enhance youth literacy in this domain.

International Conference on Human Rights Education (December 10-11, 2021)
A hybrid-format international conference on "**Human Rights Education: International Experience and National Practice**" was held on December 10-11, 2021, commemorating International Human Rights Day, the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan, and the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training.

The conference featured two plenary sessions and multiple thematic meetings, with approximately 30 human rights experts participating. Discussions centered on enhancing young people's knowledge of human rights and strengthening the professional training of educators in this field.

Speakers included the Chairperson of the Senate of Uzbekistan, Tanzila Narbayeva, First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and Director of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan, Akmal Saidov, as well as distinguished representatives from international organizations such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union, OSCE ODIHR, the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, and the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia.

The event saw participation from representatives of UN agencies, the OSCE, the Council of Europe, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNESCO, USAID, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), alongside members of the diplomatic corps, civil society, academia, and human rights education specialists.

During the conference, the National Programme on Human Rights Education and its implementation roadmap were reviewed. The draft documents were made publicly available for discussion on the official website of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan.

Third Samarkand Forum on Human Rights Education (December 5-6, 2022) The initiative to hold the 2022 international forum was proposed by the President of Uzbekistan during the 76th session of the UN General Assembly and the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council. The Third Samarkand Forum on Human Rights Education, held on December 5-6, 2022, was dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2011.

The Samarkand Global Forum aimed to assess the interim results of implementing the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and the World Programme for Human Rights Education. Participants shared best practices, discussed innovative approaches, and formulated recommendations to enhance human rights education at international, regional, and national levels.

The final document of the Global Forum on Human Rights Education, held in Samarkand on 5-6 December 2022, has been published as an official document of the **77th session** of the **UN General Assembly**. The document has been translated into the six official UN languages - Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish and Arabic - and distributed to all member states and specialised agencies of the UN, and is available in the Journal and Official Document System of the organisation under the number **A/77/800.**

The forum was organized by the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan on behalf of the Government of Uzbekistan, in partnership with international organizations such as the OHCHR, the UN Country Team in Uzbekistan, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNICEF, OSCE ODIHR, the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, the Council of Europe, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

The event was conducted under the UN’s auspices in a hybrid format, allowing a broader global audience, including human rights professionals, to participate virtually. Over 120 foreign experts from various states, international and regional organizations, specialized educational institutions, and civil society representatives attended.

Uzbekistan was represented by government officials, members of the Oliy Majlis, ministry and agency representatives, academic institutions, and civil society organizations. As part of the forum preparations, several books were published under the "New Uzbekistan and Human Rights" series and were distributed to participants.

International Forum "Youth Rights: Possibilities and Mechanisms of Protection"

On 23 October 2023, Tashkent hosted the International Forum "**Youth Rights: Possibilities and Mechanisms of Protection"** to mark the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 30th anniversary of the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights. Over **800 participants**, including experts, youth leaders, civil society representatives, and international organizations, discussed youth engagement in combating climate change, countering radicalization, and strengthening rights protection. The National Human Rights Center of

Uzbekistan led the event in collaboration with national youth institutions and international partners.

Fourth Samarkand Forum on Human Rights "Environmental Challenges: Ensuring Sustainable Solutions for the Future of Human Rights in a Changing World" (June 13-14, 2024)

The IV Samarkand Forum on Human Rights**, titled "** ***Environmental Challenges: Ensuring*** **Sustainable Solutions for the Future of Human Rights in a Changing World",** was held on June 13-14, 2024, in Samarkand, bringing together **over 200 participants**, including international and regional experts, representatives of national institutions, civil society, media, and diplomatic missions from **nearly 20 countries.**

Organized with the support of **the UN, OSCE, and Friedrich Ebert and Konrad Adenauer Foundations**, the forum featured **key addresses** from high-profile figures, including **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk**, **UN Special Rapporteur Astrid Puentes Riaño**, **Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Ann Marie Skelton**, and **Chair of the UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights Laura-Maria Crăciunean-Tatu**. Representatives from **seven UN bodies**, **the European Union, the OSCE, the Council of Europe, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA)**, along with over **30 leading international experts**, also participated.

Discussions focused on **the role of human rights in addressing climate change, environmental degradation, and sustainable development challenges**, with particular attention to **the Aral Sea region's transformation into an ecological innovation zone**. The event concluded with the adoption of the **Samarkand Declaration**, which emphasizes the urgent need for global cooperation to mitigate climate-related human rights risks and calls on states to implement sustainable policies to protect vulnerable communities.

The **Samarkand Declaration**, adopted at the forum, was **officially recognized as a document of the 78th session of the UN General Assembly**, published in **six official UN languages**, and widely distributed among **UN member states and bodies**. It has been included in the **UN official documents system under agenda item 71(b) as document A/78/999**, under the title **" Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms."**

8. Conclusions and Proposals

Human Rights Education and training play a fundamental role in promoting universal respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in line with the principles of the universality, indivisibility, and interdependence of human rights. Such education relies on broad participation and is geared toward learners' needs, providing essential knowledge and skills for critical thinking and practical application. This empowers individuals to learn about their rights and demand their effective realization. It also helps public officials and other responsible actors understand the importance of fulfilling these obligations. Overall, this is crucial for ensuring people's full participation in political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental decision-making processes that affect their lives, as well as preventing violations, violence, and conflicts.

Against this backdrop, the Presidential Decree No. 46 of February 7, 2023, "*On Approving the National Programme for Human Rights Education in the Republic of Uzbekistan*," was issued during a global campaign launched on December 10, 2022, to mark the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration itself was the first major international legal document calling for the protection of fundamental human rights. Consequently, the timing of this decree is of immense importance.

Nonetheless, the implementation of the National Programme has led to significant achievements in the field of human rights education in Uzbekistan. Moreover, on *October 9, 2024*, the UN Human Rights Council adopted **Resolution 57/10**, approving the Action Plan for implementing the *Fifth Phase* of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, thus reaffirming the global community's commitment to advancing human rights education.

Having analyzed the Programme's results and achievements, the following proposals are put forward:

- Develop and implement *innovative* human rights education strategies aligned with the *Fifth Phase* of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.
- Enhance *inter-agency cooperation* to mainstream human rights education within national reforms and development policies, ensuring that it becomes a cross-cutting theme.
- Broaden the involvement of *civil society organizations (CSOs)* in the design, delivery, and monitoring of human rights education activities.
- Create local outreach and capacity-building programs that harness the expertise of *grassroots NGOs, community groups, and other non-governmental actors*.
- Expand *e-learning* platforms and online resources so that human rights education remains accessible to people in remote areas or with limited mobility.
- Develop *public-private partnerships* and collaborative projects with international donors and development agencies to maintain long-term funding and technical assistance.
- Offer *research grants* and create *academic networks* for studying emerging human rights issues (e.g., *climate change, digital rights, socio-economic rights*), thus encouraging new ideas and scientific inquiry.

By developing a cohesive, high-quality human rights education framework and actively involving a wide range of stakeholders, state bodies, educators, civil society, private sector, and international partners Uzbekistan can strengthen its legal culture, promote inclusivity, and underscore its commitment to international human rights standards.