

WE HAVE THIS RIGHT

Petition in Support of the Human Right to Peace

The undersigned request the General Assembly of the United Nations to adopt a Universal Declaration on the Human Right to Peace which respects the aspirations of civil society.

Peace is not only a value which should govern international relations. Peace is also a human right whose right-holders are all individuals, groups and peoples: everyone has the right to live in peace; everyone has the right to a just, sustainable and lasting peace. Peace is not merely the absence of armed conflict, internal or international. Peace is a much broader and positive concept that includes the right to be educated on and for peace; the right to human security and to live in a safe and healthy environment; the right to development and to a sustainable environment; the right to civil disobedience and to conscientious objection against activities that entail a threat against peace; the right to resist and oppose oppression of regimes that violate human rights; the right to demand from all States a general and complete disarmament; freedom of thought, opinion, expression, conscience and religion; the right to seek and to enjoy refugee status; the right to migrate and participate in the public affairs of the State of residence; and the right to truth, justice and reparation to all victims of human rights violations.

This is the way understood by 1.793 civil society organizations, cities and public institutions world-wide which have adhered to the Santiago Declaration on the Human Right to Peace. It is supported, among others, by Juanes, Miguel Bosé, Eva Longoria, Alejandro Sanz, and many other public figures who like us are convinced that peace is a human right.

We are not far to achieve this purpose: the United Nations, welcoming the world-wide demand from civil society, is now drafting a Declaration, which will be submitted to the General Assembly. Once we finally obtain the approval of a Universal Declaration on the Human Right to Peace in line with the aspirations of civil society, everyone will have a check -as suggested by Martin Luther King- whereby we will be able to demand its cash before the States: peace will no longer be something to be managed the world leaders at their will. Peace will be the concern of all of us.

We can not leave the drafting process and adoption of the Declaration with the responsibility of our governments alone, because we would risk to turn it into worthless scraps of paper. Therefore, before the States decide on this matter, we want to request them to adopt a truly Universal Declaration on the Human Right to Peace, which pays tribute to the aspirations of civil society.

<http://www.pazsinfronteras.org/>