

Area of Activity V: Education and Information Resources

Rationale

To encourage and facilitate efforts to bridge the scientific and human rights communities, the Coalition will need to identify, compile, and develop resources and create opportunities for exchange to establish a stronger foundation for productive, collaborative work on human rights. Crucial for this project is the exchange of information on scientists' understanding of what science can bring to human rights work and what human rights practitioners can bring to science. Other topics to be explored include what the scientific method entails, what the human rights approach requires, and the role the media traditionally has played in conveying information produced by both communities. By providing a variety of materials on such topics, the Coalition will make an important contribution to bridging science and human rights and their respective communities, and make their collaboration in tackling human rights challenges that face the world more likely.

Objectives

- Availability of a variety of excellent and accessible information materials that fill gaps in information not already covered by human rights organizations or scientific societies and that address an array of topics needed to promote and support collaboration between scientists and human rights practitioners; and
- Better-informed scientific and human rights communities, with members who are better-prepared to work together.

Content

- Identify the information about science, the scientific method, technologies, etc. that human rights practitioners require; compile what exists; develop a plan for producing what does not;
- Identify the information about human rights, the human rights system, methodology, etc. that scientists require; compile what exists; develop a plan for producing what does not;
- Develop an initial information piece on the connections between human rights and science (e.g., "translating one for the other," Article 15);
- Explore the possibility of producing a curriculum for teaching science and human rights;
- In all materials, consider discipline-specific contributions, and applications for both U.S. and around the world;
- Collaborate with science and human rights committees and organizations in the U.S. and abroad in disseminating the materials; and
- Explore a variety of information tools and forms, including articles, website content, brochures, teaching aids, and primers.