



HRE USA

Human Rights Educators USA

A national network dedicated to building a culture of human rights.

For immediate release:

Human Rights Education Needs Greater Attention in U.S. Higher Education

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The Human Rights Educators USA (HRE USA) Network and the University and College Consortium for Human Rights Education (UCCHRE) submitted a report to the UN Human Rights Council highlighting the need for greater human rights education across higher education institutions in the United States. The report was submitted in anticipation of the U.S. mid-term review process for the Universal Periodic Review.

“All higher education programs can do more to advance human rights and we hope this report will facilitate greater collaboration and discussion to that end,” stated Kristina Eberbach, Director of Education at the Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

The report reviews over 133 higher education institutions in the United States for human rights and rights-related topics within the curriculum of schools of education, military academies and schools of social work. The document recognizes promising practices, particularly in schools of social work, but calls for the U.S. government to encourage and support HRE in those institutions operated by the government or receiving federal funding.

Information for this report was gathered in 2017 through a coordinated research effort involving faculty, staff, and students at Columbia University (Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Teachers College) and the University of Connecticut (Thomas J. Dodd Research Center) on behalf of HRE USA and UCCHRE. *“This was a collaborative process that we hope to repeat,”* explained Felisa Tibbitts of Teachers College at Columbia University. *“In addition to establishing this cross-network, cross-institutional collaboration, we developed a methodology we can use in future reporting.”*

The full report is available online: <https://goo.gl/BRcbRd>